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ABSTRACT

The primary purposes of this project were to secure information concerning (a) administrative, supervisory, and other conditions which would be detrimental to girls' participation on boys' interschool athletic teams in noncontract schools, and (b) experiences and opinions of persons directly involved in the program. The participation of 100 schools from March 1, 1969 through June 30, 1970 was completely voluntary and with the approval of the state education department. The ten sports involved in this integrated athletic project were bowling, cross country, fencing, golf, tennis, gymnastics, riflery, skiing, soccer, and track. The evaluation of the project was compiled through questions and comments from principals, directors of health, physical education, and recreation, women physical educators, women supervisors, coaches, visiting coaches, boy teammates, boys from visiting teams, girl participants, parents, and physicians. A review of this information by an evaluation committee showed no basic problems arising within the project. There was no evidence of physical, psychological or social harm to the male or female participants. The types of problems cited dealt with administrative arrangements and supervision. Because of these results, the participation of girls on boys' interschool athletic teams in noncontract schools was approved by the Board of Regents on March 16, 1971. All correspondence relating to the experiment was included in the 17-page appendixes. (BRB)

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Report on Experiment
Girls on Boys' Interschool Athletic Teams
March 1969 - June 1970

--Long Form--
Short Report Plus Comments Submitted By
Persons Associated With The Experiment

SP 006 038

The University of the State of New York
THE STATE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT
Division of Health, Physical Education and Recreation
Albany, New York 12224
February 1972

THE UNIVERSITY OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK

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Table of Contents

	Page
Preface	iii
Background	1
The Experiment	1
What Are the Results?	2
Summary Data	4
Principals	4
Directors of Health, Physical Education, and Recreation	8
Women Physical Educators	12
Women Supervisors	16
Coaches	19
Visiting Coaches	27
Boy Teammates	32
Boys - Visiting Teams	39
Girl Participants	41
Parents	50
Physicians	57
Report of the Evaluation Committee	58
Action Taken	59
Appendix A - Memo regarding need for experiment	61
Appendix B - General letter announcing the experiment	65
Appendix C - Report of the evaluation committee	69
Appendix D - General letter terminating the experiment	71
Appendix E - General letter announcing Amendments to Regulations of the Commissioner	72
Appendix F - General letter announcing an additional Amendment to the Regulations	78

PREFACE

It all began on February 26, 1969.

On that date, the State Education Department informed school officials in the State that it had authorized and would conduct an experiment to see if participation of girls on boys' interschool athletic teams in selected non-contact activities would create conditions which should rule out such competition.

It lasted for 16 months.

Now, girls may legally play on boys' teams in certain designated sports under specified conditions.

The story that follows is a summarized report of what happened during those 16 months, what persons who were involved felt about their experiences, and the results of the project.

Factors that led to the experiment were many and diverse. Basically, however, they included (1) the greatly increased athletic abilities of girls in recent years, (2) the general scarcity of opportunities for talented girls to find challenging competition, and (3) society's gradual recognition that such competition by girls is acceptable and desirable. Since most high schools in New York State did not sponsor interschool teams for girls, it was inevitable that eyes would eventually focus on boys' teams as an outlet for the athletic talents of girls.

Over the years, a few requests for approval to allow girls to play on boys' teams in certain sports had trickled into the Department. All were denied on the basis of existing Regulations of the Commissioner of Education and the expressed views of leaders in physical education. Finally, this traditional position was challenged for validity and sex discrimination by a senior girl who was an outstanding tennis player and her parents. Since there was no evidence available that could be applied to the issue, the Department was faced with the necessity of securing data to assist it in determining a valid position. Thus, the experiment was born.

In addition to providing the necessary evidence to support a valid position on the question of girls playing on boys' teams, the greatest concomitant outcome of this project is the clear expression by a large majority in each group of persons involved, including the boy and girl participants, that what is greatly needed are considerably more opportunities for athletically talented girls to meet their needs by participation on interschool teams, particularly on teams composed solely of girls. General observation seems to indicate that a definite trend in this direction has been generated in the schools across the State.

Many persons were involved in the project and sincere appreciation is expressed to all. It was initiated under former Commissioner of Education, the late James E. Allen, Jr., with the support of Associate Commissioner Walter Crewson and Assistant Commissioner Bernard F. Haake. Present Commissioner Ewald B. Nyquist's strong interest and efforts were most valuable. Deputy Commissioner Thomas D. Sheldon and Associate Commissioner Philip B. Langworthy provided invaluable services in public relations and in support of the amendment. Department Attorney Elizabeth M. Eastman played an important role in the discussions preceding the experiment and in preparing

the proposal for the experiment as well as its guidelines. The evaluation committee contributed greatly by assessing the summarized data and making recommendations for Department action. Committee personnel included David J. Irvine, Chief of the Department's Bureau of School Program Evaluation, J. Kenneth Hafner, Field Representative for the State Public High School Athletic Association, Robert C. Jackson, Director of Health, Physical Education and Recreation, North Colonie Schools, Jan Abelseth and Rick Ellis, students at Voorheesville High School, George A. Gould, principal, Scarsdale High School, and A. Mae Timer, State Education Department. Thomas E. Shaffer, M.D. and Fred V. Hein, chairman and secretary, respectively, of the American Medical Association's Committee on Medical Aspects of Sports were most helpful in the initial stages of the project. Members of the Bureau of Physical Education and Recreation contributed to the experiment in numerous ways. Of these, A. Mae Timer deserves special mention for providing most of the leadership in the project, for the many visitations she made to observe the competition and to talk to persons involved in the experiment, and for the collection and treatment of the data, among other contributions. Last, but not least in importance, sincere appreciation is expressed to the hundreds of students and adults who participated in the experiment without whose efforts it could not have been conducted.

George H. Grover
Director, Division of Health, Physical
Education and Recreation

Bernard F. Haake
Assistant Commissioner for Instructional
Services (General Education)

Background

Should girls be allowed to play on boys' interschool athletic teams in selected noncontact sports? This was the question faced by the State Education Department in 1969 for which evidence was needed to support a valid answer.

The question had been raised intermittently over the last 10 years or so. The Department had received some requests to permit girls to compete on boys' teams in such sports as riflery, golf, and swimming. The requests were denied on the basis that Regulations of the Commissioner of Education prevented this type of competition and that consensus of leaders in physical education in the State and Nation indicated that such competition was not desirable. Although there was some grumbling about these decisions, they were more or less accepted. However, in early 1969 this traditional position was challenged for validity and on the basis of sex discrimination by a high school senior girl and her parents.

Faced with the need for valid supporting data, the Education Department gathered all the evidence it could find on the matter. Very little was reported in professional literature. In the limited number of experiences that came to its attention wherein girls competed on boys' teams (primarily at the college level), the only negative factor reported was that it was not yet socially acceptable for a girl to defeat a boy in athletic competition. Discussion with various medical personnel elicited a unanimous expression that there are no medical reasons to prohibit girls from competing on boys' teams in selected noncontact sports. Thus, it became clear that the Department had little or nothing to support its traditional position. It was then suggested that a moratorium be declared on a decision until some evidence could be gathered through experience. Thus, the experimental project came into being.

The Experiment

The project was approved to run from March 1, 1969, through June 30, 1970. Participation by high schools, public and private, was on a voluntary basis but only those schools that applied to and were approved by the State Education Department were permitted to use girls on boys' teams. The Education Department waived the restrictive Regulations for the approved schools for the duration of the experiment. Boards of education were required to authorize the participation of girls on boys' teams in their high schools as well as the application for approval to participate in the project. Chief school officers were asked to agree to secure and transmit data as required by the Department to evaluate the project, provide for medical examinations for girls prior to the start of practice sessions and at the conclusion of the season, and assign a woman faculty member to attend practice sessions, supervise the girls' locker room, and accompany the team on all trips. The Department did not specify what sports would be approved but merely stated that requests would be considered for activities that are deemed not to involve physical contact, with the decision resting with the Department.

The primary purposes of the project were to (1) ascertain if any administrative, supervisory, or other conditions are inherent in an action program of this type that would make it detrimental for girls to participate on boys' teams, and (2) secure information from persons directly involved concerning their experiences and opinions on the matter. The data gathered were used by an evaluation

committee that met in July 1970, as the basis for its recommendations to the Department on whether or not girls should be allowed on boys' teams in the future.

During the 16 months of the experiment, 100 different schools were approved for the project. Most of them participated in one sport. One high school, however, was involved in six activities (golf, tennis, swimming, skiing, gymnastics, and track).

The 100 schools participated in 10 different sports: bowling, cross country, fencing, golf, gymnastics, riflery, skiing, soccer, tennis, and track. Tennis and golf were the most popular sports in the experiment.

What Are The Results?

One of the purposes of the experiment was to find out if any problems would be raised by allowing girls to compete on boys' teams. Of the coaches, women supervisors, principals, directors, and girl participants who were asked the question, the vast majority reported there were no problems. When problems were cited, the most frequently mentioned were additional cost for women supervisors, unavailability of women supervisors, providing locker room and shower supervision, and refusal of some opponents to compete against a girl. It is interesting to note that one director listed as a problem the boys' hesitancies about having a girl on the team which, he said, changed quickly to a positive reaction after the girl earned her position.

In regard to differences in competition, more than half of the coaches said they observed no differences in the way boys competed against girls as compared to other boys. Some felt the boys played their hardest, some did not. Most of the boys stated there was no difference in playing against a girl, although half of them felt there was more than the usual pressure to win. The few who reported a difference said "None, except you feel a little superior," or they felt a stronger urge to win or that girls were weaker or that language and behavior improved. Every single one of the girls said she thought the boy played his best against her both in practice and in game situations. Ninety-four percent of the women supervisors indicated they did not observe any evidence of girls being under undue stress in competing against boys.

What did the boys have to say about their experiences? They overwhelmingly believe that competing against a girl is not harmful physically, emotionally, and socially except that a few feel there is apt to be some slight emotional pressure or tenseness. After competing against a girl, the vast majority of boys said that teammates, coaches, and nonteam boys and girls treated them the same as before. However, some laughter and teasing was naturally involved. Slightly more than half of the boys said they would rather compete against boys, 13 percent said girls, and a third of them reported they had no preference. Some of their opinions were: girls are too emotional, boys are more competitive, and boys can be freer in action and words. Here's a good one: "Girls are more enjoyable."

What about the girls? What did they say about playing on boys' teams? About 3 out of 5 girls thought that boys behaved differently at practice when they were around, especially in behavior and language. Only 5 percent of the girls felt that practice sessions were too strenuous, and a few of these said they were so only on occasion.

The vast majority of girls (85 percent) felt they were accepted by the boys as team members. Nine out of 10 girls reported they felt they were a part of the team rather than merely individual players. Two-thirds of the girls said that when they won, boys on the team did not treat them differently. Similarly, there was little or no difference in the boys' actions when the girls lost. Nine out of 10 girls said they were not treated any differently by boys and girls not on the team, teachers, and the community as a whole. Any slight difference was in the form of more interest, attention, respect, and friendliness.

Most of the girls said that being a team member did not affect their school work, social activities, or home life.

Two-thirds of the girls would prefer to be on a boys' team. The principal reasons cited for this preference are the greater challenge, higher level of skill, and more opportunity for competitive participation. Half of the girls said they would rather compete against boys, 30 percent of them said girls, and 1 out of 5 had no preference. Seventy percent felt there were no other girls in their schools who could challenge them in athletic ability and slightly more believed other schools lacked this level of competition for them.

The girls were unanimous in feeling that competing against a boy was not harmful to them physically, emotionally, and/or socially.

It was somewhat surprising to note that the vast majority of parents said they had no concern about their daughters being members of boys' athletic teams. Of those who did express some concerns, the main worry was how the boys would accept the girls. Other worries were: "Beating a boy," "Not losing identity as a girl," "Competition," and "No interference with homework."

Other reactions on the effect on their daughters included the following:

--Practically all said it had not affected schoolwork.
--Home life was not changed materially.
--An increase in their social life was reported by about a fourth of the parents.
--Better endurance and physical condition were evident.
--More mature and improved in outlook were frequently mentioned.

Ninety percent of the parents said they felt these changes were desirable.

When asked whether they preferred their daughters to be members of girls' teams, 39 percent of the parents said girls; 20 percent indicated boys; 34 percent reported no preference; and 7 percent said both.

Practically all women physical education teachers who responded stated that girls who participated on boys' teams did not experience problems with their peers in class. A few felt that newspaper coverage made it difficult for some girls. Most of these teachers indicated that the girls' extraclass activities were not affected by allowing girls to play on boys' teams. On the question of comparable competition for these talented girls, 72 percent of these physical educators felt such competition did not exist in their schools, but 55 percent thought comparable competition could be found on girls' teams in other schools.

Seventy-two percent of the opposing coaches said they had no boys who did not want to compete against a girl. Of those who did, the reason given for this was fear of losing.

What were some of the experiences of coaches who had girls on their teams? Did they feel that boys played their hardest against girls? Yes, said 43 percent; no, said 32 percent; and no difference in 25 percent of the cases. Twelve percent of the coaches reported that opposing schools refused to play them when they found out that a girl would be on the team.

Should the practice of allowing girls to compete on boys' athletic teams be continued? Eighty percent of the principals, directors, women physical educators, coaches, and physicians involved in the experiment voted in favor of continuing the practice, either as an experiment or as legal policy. Slightly more than 90 percent of the boy team members, girl participants, parents, coaches, and opposing coaches also favored continuation of the practice. Of this group:

--Eighty-four percent of the boy team members said girls should be allowed on their teams.
--Ninety-nine percent of the girl participants (all but one girl) would want to be on a boys' team again.
--Ninety-seven percent of the girls would advise other girls to go out for boys' teams.
--Ninety-three percent of the parents recommend that highly talented girls be allowed on boys' varsity teams.
--Seventy-four percent of the opposing coaches would want girls on their teams if they were good enough.
--Eighty-six percent of the coaches would have a girl on their teams.

Summary Data

Principals

1. Were there any problems that arose due to a girl being on a boys' team?

	Yes	No
a. teachers		50
b. parents		50
c. students		50
d. administration		50
e. supervision	9	43
f. financial	2	48
g. other	1	49

2. Has this experience been harmful to the boy or girl?

	Yes	No
a. physically	0	22
b. emotionally	0	19
c. socially	0	54
d. other	0	6

3. Do you think this practice should be:

   a. continued as an experiment? -- 37
   b. accepted as legal policy? -- 31
   c. discontinued? -- 15

4. Comments:

Additional supervision or having a woman supervisor is unnecessary.

Additional supervision is a burden.

Mixed double teams would possibly meet needs of pupils.

Golf, tennis, bowling, archery are excellent; however, swimming and track are questionable for girls to be on a boys' team.

It would be discriminatory to exclude any girl fron non-contact interschool competition.

Negative psychological aspects on boys are much overplayed.

Boys should be able to cope with superior talent, regardless of sex.

Girls that earn a position on a team are respected.

I would like to recommend:
a. Extramural Girls Program (girls competing on their own level against girls).
b. Out of the Girls' Extramural Program with State Education Department approval having an Interscholastic Girls' Program on High Level Competition.
c. I do not object to girls competing, but it should be on their own level against girls.

We are asking our Board of Education to commit itself to expenditure of sufficient monies to provide adequate supervision for the winter season sports. Our makeshift fall plan (woman bus driver filled in whenever regular women's physical education staff was not on duty for other normal girls' programs -- occasionally the girl athlete's mother came in to supervise in the absence of either of the aforementioned provisions). Let's do it adequately or not at all is our feeling now.

I think it was a good experience for all concerned and should be continued in the future.

I personally do not believe boys should have to participate against girls in athletics at the high school level. However, I will admit that I have heard no adverse criticism of this competition on our rifle team on which we have two female participants. I certainly believe this experiment should go on a minimum of four years to give school people an opportunity to really assess it thoroughly before it becomes a legal policy or before it is discontinued.

I believe this experience is valuable and offers a program for girls which has been needed. I believe it needs further experimentation before it becomes a policy. If costs continue to be a major concern of school districts, I believe athletics will have to share cutbacks and this may well be an area. Costs for strict supervision may be prohibitive. I don't want to have this happen, but we have to be realistic.

I feel we should consider providing more competitive experiences for girls, but between girls' teams and coached by women teachers.

This project has had a very good effect on our student body. I strongly urge its continuance.

I believe that girls are entitled to equal opportunity on school teams, provided that they are physically capable of competing in particular sports.

When we put a girl on a boys' varsity team, we admit that we do not offer a satisfactory program for girls.

We had some minor problems from other schools that did not choose to permit girls to participate. All chose, however, to compete. One was very difficult concerning a dressing room for our girls. These problems will, I believe, disappear.

It seems to be worthwhile and I believe should be continued.

It has been very successful for us. We have a large school, 2300 students, and these three highly skilled young ladies would never have had the opportunity to compete on this level if this practice hadn't been initiated. It will be many years, we feel, before a full team approach of girls would be able to compete on a basis that would be challenging for these outstanding female swimmers.

I believe it is difficult, if not unwise, to impose additional financial obligations on school districts already operating precariously from a financial standpoint.

Some schools, to varying degrees, objected to a girl participating. Our own students accepted the girl after the initial announcements had worn off. It is a ruling that has long been needed to allow girls fuller participation.

Perhaps the best contribution which the State could make is to establish a league for girls the same as it has for boys. The league should involve non-contact sports and/or selected girls' sports.

Some schools refused to compete with us because we had girls on our team. I am not inferring you should establish a policy to cover this, but I feel you should be aware of this situation.

The project is ridiculous. Girls should be competing against girls.

I much rather see emphasis placed on girls' teams competing on an interscholastic basis than girls competing on boys' teams.

As indicated to you in previous reports, our Administration whole-heartedly supports equal opportunities for girls in "non-contact" interscholastic competition. I do not believe that special supervisory personnel are needed. I feel one coach, regardless of sex, would provide sufficient supervision.

I see no reason other than physical why a girl should be shut out of a sport because of sex.

We believe that it might be much better to authorize girls' athletic teams as such. We believe that we are now at the point in time when these are necessary to fill a vacuum that is causing a contribution to the student unrest problems.

If girls are to compete in interscholastic sports, it should be on a girls' team.

It is always better to have girls' competition against girls. However, in lieu of no girls' program -- they should be able to be on a boys' team. Also, the outstanding female should have an opportunity to be on a boys' team, if they can make it on ability. Mixed competition should be in non-contact activities.

Firmly support coeducational program.

I believe that we should work toward an expanded program for girls in certain lifetime activities. (Swimming, golf, tennis, etc.)

I think it is a success and should become a part of the accepted program.

I felt in the beginning that was a fair exchange. Let the best man win. I now feel that more is lost than is gained. I don't feel men and women should compete competitively. It is fine to play each other for fun and companionship but once it becomes something more, I feel the boys react too strongly, it becomes not just a game competition but a sex competition. If we are concerned about the girls finding the need to compete in athletics lets schedule them on their own teams against girls. I don't understand what the program was to accomplish.

Personally I would prefer to see more money, time and effort spent on a strong local program for a large number of girls and boys rather than concentrate on the gifted for competition.

Best thing--men coaches and physical education directors are now forced to see the need to develop girl sports competition on interscholastic level. (Previously, they tended to discourage it, etc.)

This appears to be a compromise move which is very good.

The one concern I have about the competition between boys and girls on a varsity level involves the emotional reaction of the boy. I have heard of no complaint concerning this and must indicate it to be a concern on my part alone. Win or lose what is the boy's feeling -- "Who did you beat?" or "Who beat you?" is a question frequently asked -- some may respond in a

sarcastic sense when the competitor is a female. How does the boy begin play in the match doing his best or being a gentlemen and perhaps apprehensive? I recognize that the matches are arranged by order of competence 1st man vs. 1st man - however, concern still sits within me. I would like to see varsity contests for girls in a number of sports, but I know many schools do not want to get involved.

I believe the program should be discontinued in favor of development of a stronger girls program. I firmly believe that if a girl participates on boys' teams then a strong girls' program will be neglected.

Let's make an attempt to organize some form of girls' interscholastic sports activity on a small scale as an experiment.

I believe girls need interscholastic activity but not coeducational; it should be separate.

As additional girls' sports are developed, the need will diminish.

In my opinion tradition has been broken. This experiment has proved to be a marvelous departure from past State policy. Ideas such as this will insure New York State a first place in education for the future.

Our reactions were in the area of gymnastics where girls in the free exercises were able to be more successful.

Girls' athletics on a competitive team basis should be considered.

I feel very strongly the girls should have their own teams and compete girl vs. girl. I question the value of a single girl, for example, being on an all male squad. If girl teams were encouraged, I feel more and more girls would compete, or at least participate. I would stress lower pressure intramurals, rather than varsity competition.

We found no problem with our first experience, but I feel it should remain an experiment because greater numbers of girls participating may create problems of supervision.

I feel tennis lends itself to competition across sex lines. I feel it would be far more difficult to supervise and control swimming.

I believe the experiment can continue under same conditions. No relaxation of rules. Only higher qualified girls should apply and be allowed to participate.

Directors of Health, Physical Education, and Recreation

1. Indicate problems, if any, that arose due to a girl being on a boys' team.

	Yes	No
a. teachers		59
b. parents		59
c. students	1	58
d. administration		59
e. supervisor	7	52
f. financial	2	57
g. section		59
h. league		59
i. other		59

2. Do you think it is desirable for girls to be members of boys' teams?

   No - 33 Yes - 32 Both - 2 Undecided - 2

3. Do you think it is, or has been, harmful to the boys to have girls on the team?

   No - 61 Yes - 10 Undecided - 1

4. Do you think the experiment should continue? Yes - 46 No - 27

5. Do you think this practice should be:

   a. continued as an experiment? -- 37
   b. accepted as legal policy? -- 10
   c. discontinued? -- 25

6. Comments:

   Unnatural for girl to beat boy.

   Boys don't play as hard.

   No need for woman supervisor.

   Girls' teams should be formed.

   Most gratifying.

   Girl must be an exceptional athlete and capable of withstanding the vigors of training and competition.

   Boys' attitude changes to positive.

   I do not object to girls competing, but should be on their own level against girls.

   Our attendance at the meets went up. Some of the coaches in the conference felt that all the schools should participate in the program if one did. All our conference schools may apply for the program next year. Our coach did a great job handling this program and this is perhaps the reason we encountered very few problems. Unless the girl is exceptional, she will have difficulty competing against the boys.

   As far as I am concerned, there were no problems in regard to girls taking part in rifle meets.

   Wary at first, but the program in swimming was a success. Not only did we have girls on the varsity team, but a girls' team was formed also.

   Recommend the project experiment be continued until such time as girls can compete with girls.

   Athletic Director of the 28 schools in the ECIC athletic conference went on record as not wanting girls on <u>any</u> boys' athletic teams. We would rather see the girls carry on same program. NOTE: as far as I am concerned, if this is O.K. why not let boys join girls sports day. This would be a joke.

The project was good in that it was a step toward providing competition for girls. The next step should be limited girl vs. girl competition in specific activities. A better understanding of what the department is trying to do.

I believe in this program. We have for years been trying to get more competition in this type of athletics.

I sincerely hope that this experiment will lead to girls being given the opportunity to participate on an interschool basis. Our girls need more opportunities to participate in athletic competition on girls' teams.

I would rather see a girls' team.

I feel that outstanding girl athletes should have an opportunity to participate in interscholastic competition. If possible, there should be girls teams. But if for various reasons it is not possible for a school to finance or support a girls' team, then they should be eligible for the boys' squad.

In our league we have had a girls' interscholastic bowling league and teams for the past three years, which has proved very successful, and we hope to expand to other activities in the near future. Through programs such as this experimental swim program, I sincerely believe that you are providing schools with an easy way out by saying that if girls want to participate they can be included in these programs. Consequently, programs for girls are not developed.

I feel that with the girls on a team, the boys have an incentive to work harder.

If skiing could be run on an intramural basis, this project would be good but I do not believe it should be run as an interscholastic program because girls will never be able to compete on the same basis as boys because of physical stamina, endurance, etc. Girls should compete against their own sex if they want an interscholastic program.

We had problems with two schools in our own league who did not want to compete against girls. The only reason given was that they were girls and did not want to compete against them. Also, the chairman of Section V Gymnastics tried to discourage the girls from competing in the Sectional Meet and points were taken off from their score because they were not wearing the same uniform as was being worn by our boy team members.

It has been very difficult to obtain supervision by a woman to comply with experimental program. This had budget implications as volunteer help is difficult to find.

No great problems were created by including girls on boys' athletic teams. We did not take our girl swimmer to all boys' school because of the absences of facilities but that was the only problem I can think of. Our girl bowler did not finish out the season because of getting home so late and the parents were concerned. I feel the experiment has merit but I would rather upgrade the girls' programs to satisfy this need and let them compete among themselves. Until this takes place, I think I would continue to let girls take part in certain teams. (cross country, swimming, bowling, skiing, track)

We feel here after having girls on our varsity teams in swimming and tennis that it would be better if they were not allowed to be on the teams. Instead, let's expand our girls' programs. Boys say why not let us go to girls' play days?

We can only speak on the participation of two girls on our boys' track team. The amount of red tape and effort to initiate such a program; the cost of hiring a female teacher to supervise the two girls; the necessity of two coaches interrupting their schedule to give separate instruction; and all of this when from the start it was generally known that neither could compete with the boys, seemed a waste of good time and money. I would much rather see a jointly operated girls' interscholastic team, with coaches, participate on their own level. For example, run double dual meets, girls first and boys second in each event, but with separate scoring. Coaching duties could be shared by the men and women practicing at the same time; officials' expenses could be less and possibly even transportation costs reduced for away meets. I am definitely for girls' athletics but feel we should do the most for the greatest number per dollar particularly in this day and age of school financial problems.

Continue yes, however, even if on a boys' team in track -- the girls should compete against other girls only. It is best to have girls' teams competing against girls' teams.

If girls must compete interscholastically, then change the New York State laws concerning girls sports. If girls cannot compete with girls, then how can you justify competing against boys in a more strenuous and competitive program? Also, the emotional health of boys of this age apparently has not been taken into consideration.

School districts should be encouraged to provide programs in the areas where the experiment exists, in order to offer these activities for girls on girls' teams. This would give the physically "gifted" girl an opportunity to compete.

I believe the program should continue on an experimental basis. I think our high school girls' physical education program lacks inspiration, drive and competition. I would hope this type of program would inspire our women physical education instructors to do a better job and meet modern day thinking, competition and improve the overall program.

I think that we should all work to improve and build up or extend our Girls' Program so that the girls can compete with their peers.

This has been a worthwhile experiment; it has shown to us that we discriminate against the girls in programs of interscholastic activity; that girls cannot compete with boys; that girls need a separate program with separate coaching.

For the number of girls participating I find it hard to use a qualified woman instructor when she could be used for the benefit of many more girls. I feel it is an easy way for schools to get involved in interscholastic sports for girls when we need more participation from both sexes placed on their own teams.

The girls' program should be broadened to include more activities. Competition between girls' teams should be encouraged.

I think it has served its purpose. I believe we should have girl participation on girls' teams.

The girls who came out for track seemed disappointed because they were not as skilled as the boys. They had a great desire to compete at first, then wanted to quit. We encouraged them to continue. This same thing happened a couple of other times but they did finish the season.

Our experience was a positive one according to all concerned. If a girl has the ability and cannot receive enough competition against girls, she should have an opportunity to compete against the better boys.

Biggest problem arose when schools withdrew from our schedule. This placed the single girl with emotional problems concerning her peers. She wanted to quit but she was told if she did, then the entire golf schedule and team would be dropped.

I am not in favor of girls competing in boys' sports for the same reason we wouldn't want boys competing in girls' sports. There is a certain amount of masculinity and femininity to be developed in their own designated sports. We have a girls' interscholastic program for the girls and they should participate within that program which has guidelines different from boys. Also, by a girl being on our team, she took the place of a boy who may have been able to be in the meets she was in. I can see the value of a mixed doubles as an optional event, or female singles as an event.

I think the experiment should be restricted to tennis and golf.

Women Physical Educators

1. Has allowing girls the opportunity to play on boys' teams affected your after-school program? No - 54 Yes - 9

2. Did the girl participant have problems with her peers in class?

   No - 66 Yes - 2 Occasionally - 1

3. In teaching, were there any unusual problems with this girl? No - 67 Yes - 2

4. Was there comparable competition for this girl with girls in your school?

   No - 47 Yes - 18

5. Was there comparable competition for this girl with other schools' girls' teams?

   Yes - 33 No - 27

6. Do you think the experiment should continue? Yes - 48 No - 13

7. Do you think this practice should be:

   a. continued as an experiment? -- 32
   b. accepted as legal policy? -- 23
   c. discontinued? -- 10

8. Comments:

The publicity does not help the girl; it singles her out as a novelty.

There needs to be interschool athletics for girls.

If girls are good enough, they should be allowed on boys' teams.

Girls are challenged by the opportunities of the boys' schedule.

It was highly successful at our school.

A highly skilled girl should be urged to compete in AAU and at other levels, but with girls, playing girls' rules from the Division of Girls-Women's Sports.

I'd like to see some of the gymnastics events put under the experiment as well as tennis, golf, etc., if we had the coaches for the girls, I think it's an excellent program.

Allow girls to enter into organized girls' leagues in some sports, mainly basketball for now. Many girls have the ability and why couldn't they have the opportunity to perform as the boys do in sports - with the boys and by themselves. Let girls' sports have the place like boys do in school functions.

Although many girls are looking forward to "co-ed" competition, we must continue to offer "girls only" competition where there is a need and interest.

I feel we are making great strides in allowing girls to compete in athletics against boys. However, to be realistic, few girls can surpass boys, but the value of just being able to keep up with practice and making the team speaks well for any girl who is willing to stick with the vigorous practice even if she does not compete in all of the meets.

I believe that a woman instructor should be involved in some manner so that the program could be evaluated more objectively. This program has been run entirely by men.

I do think that the inclusion of girls in boys' varsity sports will tend to weaken the girls' program. That is, if the best girl athletes leave the realm of women's sports, the competition tends to be of a less skilled nature. It would seem that the objective should be to strengthen women's athletics and interschool play more so that girls can find the same satisfactions from competing with girls as they would probably with the boys. I do think that this might tend, therefore, to weaken girls' sports but not necessarily strengthen boys' sports.

If personnel are available, I think girls should be on girls' varsity teams. If this is not possible, then outstanding girls can be on boys' teams. Competition is rarely fair with boys competing against girls.

Gives girls in small schools a chance for better competition,

I would like to see leisure sports such as tennis, swimming and golf accepted in mixed (coed) interschool competition. These are highly worthwhile activities and the basic skill should be developed on a high school level. Oftentimes, physical education classes cannot challenge the superior sportswoman. Unless interschool competition is made available, the girls' talents are wasted. Furthermore, the season, schedule, coach and practice routine is firmly established for boys. The average or above-average girl could easily blend into this program. The cost saving and coaching time saved would be considerable, particularly in the smaller, rural schools.

All girls' teams would be much more beneficial than mixed competition.

The girls who originally tried out for the team expected some preferential treatment. When it did not happen, they dropped the team. The girls who remained on the team seemed quite well adjusted. However, there is the problem of a man coach supervising two girls in a locker room; pep talks obviously had to exclude girls from boys' locker room during meets. It would be much better to have separate girls' teams, even if coached by a male and supervised and assisted by a female teacher, if necessary. Male coaches demand more and get it from students in general workouts. Girls should have an equal opportunity to compete on a varsity level in interschool activities in individual sports. However, the consensus of our department of four women teachers is that girls should compete on teams with girls if sufficient competition is available in neighboring schools.

The big problem is time and space for girls' activities. The boys' program - intramurals, extramurals, interschool activities - take up the facilities. As a result, the girls' program must move to another school (elementary) or take a back seat for interschool activities for boys.

We've had only three girls involved with our swim team and their participation has in no way affected our girls' program.

We do not feel that it is necessary that a woman supervise girls. More encouraging attitude on part of coaches.

Improve girls' interscholastic sports so as to give adequate competition for girls so that they do not need to participate on boys' teams to satisfy the need for adequate competition.

Because there still are administrators who feel that all competition for girls is harmful, I feel that we need more scientific data which this experiment could provide. Practically, I do not like the idea of girls competing with boys. I would rather see a very strong girls' interscholastic team instead. But until we have such teams, this provides a place for the highly skilled girl.

I believe that the problem arose initially due to lack of facilities for the girls. Therefore, little practice, little competition. I believe that if we had adequate facilities for the girls to use 5 days a week, the girls would be content to play girls' interscholastic sports and have no desire to try out for the boys' team. We have four tennis courts for 1800 students. It is this lack of adequate facility that caused_____ to fight for the chance to play on the boys' team, in the first place.

It is my feeling that girls should compete with girls and boys with boys. I see no reason why girls and boys need to be put into competition together. If girls with a high level of sports ability concentrate on competing with girls of like ability, it would do much to advance girls' sports. I feel that more should be done to provide opportunities for girls to compete in sports, but such competition should be among girls only.

I think it is well worth having for those sports where competition for girls is just not available in nearby communities so that her talents can be developed (even if it means playing against boys).

I feel this was very beneficial for the girls who played under this experiment and that many more benefits will be derived from making this a legal policy.

I think that if increasing numbers of girls show interest in varsity sports, that in time we should move toward setting up our own varsity program.

Most schools, I feel, are in the same situation as we are, concerning girls' intramural, extramural and interscholastic activities. There are too few qualified women available to help relieve the burden of the "overtaxed" physical education woman who runs a year round, varied program. There is just so much a person can do (two at our school for the complete program outlined on page 1) with the number of personnel, limited time and overworked facilities. Until a solution is attempted by all or most schools, I can see no other alternative than to allow the highly skilled girl to compete on a boys' team. She deserves as much of an opportunity as those skilled in the activities we are presently offering.

If a girl has the ability to make a varsity sport, she should be allowed to play on the team. The girl should be expected to meet all the obligations set by the coach. I do feel, however, that this girl should be allowed to participate in other extramural activities provided it doesn't interfere with her obligation to the varsity sport.

I think a girls' team should be started in the sports in which we have a girl playing on boys' teams. There are other girls' teams in the area with which they can compete.

The girls involved were exceptionally well-mannered and intelligent; this could be the reason why it went so well.

I think this idea/policy is very good for poorer or smaller schools which cannot or do not provide programs for the girls as well as the boys.

This has been a good opportunity for girls who have the ability to perform where no program exists for them other than boys' teams. It does limit the number of participants that can become involved. Some girls who are good performers will not try out. Perhaps once the experiment has been proven, more will participate.

The girls learned a great deal from the matches they played. For the most part the boys were respectful and somewhat in awe of these girls but if the practice continues, I am sure the novelty will wear off. All the girls who competed were good students and their studies were not affected; and in fact, I am sure the discipline was good for them.

Women Supervisors

1. What were the problems, if any, which you encountered in carrying out your supervisory duties?

	Yes	No
a. practice sessions	1	41
b. locker room facilities	2	40
c. trips		42
d. spectators		42
e. any other aspects		42

2. Did you observe any evidence that this girl was under more undue stress?

No - 36 Yes - 2 No response - 1

3. Do you think there were more emotional situations than would occur if this girl were on a girls' team?

No - 31 Yes - 7 Undecided - 2 No response - 1

4. Do you think that this experience for girls was undesirable or harmful to a girl?

	Yes	No	A little
a. physically	1	26	1
b. emotionally	1	26	1
c. psychologically	1	26	1
d. other	1	26	

5. Do you recommend that highly skilled girls be allowed to be on boys' varsity teams? Yes - 32 No - 9

6. Comments:

Girls should not be penalized or barred from high level competition.

Girls and boys working, competing together is the way it is in life.

A very worthwhile experience.

Acceptance, attitude and response of the coach is the secret.

Both boys and girls busy showing off to each other; only one girl was really interested in serious play.

In our society boys are expected to be better.

We're the only school in the county with a girl on a boys' team -- so, there isn't a need for girls to be on boys' teams.

I think it is time for the State Department of Education to examine and consider the feasibility of a state-wide program for girls' tennis. If this is to be considered, it should be under the guidance of coaches trained and interested in tennis; it is not something that should be turned to someone who is to function as a "baby sitter".

I feel that everyone on our team enjoyed this experience tremendously. It will take getting used to by other teams, other coaches and the community. It has been very worthwhile for those people involved, and I'm sure it will not be forgotten soon. The only other thing I add is that if the girls' sport is offered, I feel it could be good if the girls were on that team rather than the boys' team.

I would like to say that the boys and girls as a team work very hard to do their very best for the team. The girls and boys also had respect for each other as teammates.

I enjoyed doing this very much, and I hope that these girls are allowed to swim in the coming years.

I feel that a better and more diversified program of sports is needed for high school girls and should be kept separate from the boys' program.

I think girls involved in boys' inter-high-school athletic teams have a rewarding experience if they have the proper attitude. I found that any girls willing to practice as much as the boys, are highly motivated in the sport and they conduct themselves very well. If this is allowed to continue, I feel that in a few years the girls will be rough competition.

I believe that if a girl can qualify for the team, in any non-contact sport, that is not provided separately for girls, then she should be allowed to participate on the boys' team.

I felt that it was a good experience for the whole team. They (boys) respected the girls and their abilities and were a welcome addition to the team. Some of the opposing teams (all boys) resented the girls when they got beat by them and didn't think it was fair to have girls on the team.

Only that if we women were allowed the facilities provided the boys, we would set up our own varsity level sports and then there would not be a "problem" of "letting" girls on a boys' team. I realize that it will take considerable time, effort and planning to achieve a level as the boys now enjoy, but I

also feel that varsity level sports for girls have been held back too long in favor of the boys' programs. Pushing for acceptance on boys' teams is a step toward varsity level sports for high school girls. At present, I favor qualified girls being members of boys' teams.

It would be more beneficial to the girls if girls' teams and leagues were established on this level.

Having a girl on the "boys'" team encouraged both the boys and the girls to work harder, tremendously increased team spirit and pride, and caused the student body as a whole to recognize swimming as a legitimate sport.

Our biggest handicap this year was encountering some coaches at away schools who resented "girl swimmers"--and felt we had no place with the team. It made the girls feel "unwanted" at a couple of schools. That, and the fact that they were not prepared to offer locker space for girls. For the most part we were made to feel very welcome and certainly the girls were put under no strain of any kind.

If more emphasis were placed on girls' competitive activities, there would be no need for girls to compete with boys.

Some schools do not wish to compete with schools that have girls on their team. Their reason is not a problem with locker room facilities. They feel it is demoralizing for boys to be beaten by a girl. I think the program was highly successful and should be continued.

We, she, her parents, the coach, the boys and I, found this a challenging and interesting experience. She was on her best behavior at all times, so that she could (or would) not be called down for temperament. She had had enough experience (Y competition) before joining us, so that it was hardly new to her. She is competitive and a good worker.

She added to the boys' bowling team in skill throughout the season, but I do not feel she received anything greatly beneficial in the long range view.

One of the objectives of girls' varsity sports is to show the girls that they can participate in highly skilled sports and still conduct themselves in a feminine manner. Allowing girls to participate in boys' athletics may lead to exactly the opposite unless it is very well supervised.

The girls should express an extreme interest to go out for, practice with, and stick with the team. As long as there aren't girls' teams, interscholastic teams, that is, girls should be allowed a place on a team, if deserving of it.

I think girls should be encouraged to participate in the athletic program but an effort should be made to build girls' teams rather than having girls compete against boys.

The girls out for track all quit, so no supervision was necessary. Golf and tennis need no supervision.

It appeared hard for boys accepting a loss from a girl, but I feel that in a world where the female is becoming more and more competitive, a young man should be willing to work with and accept the opposite sex for their success and for their shortcomings.

The boys on the squad did accept these girls and played their hardest to compete against them, but in game situations against other schools, they were pulling for the girls all the way.

I also feel that the three girls that did end up the season learned and progressed remarkably well in their skill and knowledge of terms--much more so than they would have if not given the chance to participate in the program.

A good deal of the success we had this season was due to the coach's attitude towards having girls on the boys' team, because they project their feelings very much to the boys.

I was very pleased with the outcome of the program and with the success that these three girls had.

I think that sports that are normally competitive between men and women (i.e., golf, tennis, bowling) should be opened to women on the varsity level.

Am doubtful about my opinion on this subject. I feel that the stress from the whole situation is more likely to be on the boys' part. There is great emotional and psychological impact on a boy's ego to be competing against girls, I feel anyway. Before a girl be allowed to compete, I think it should be discussed with the male varsity members first--after all, it's their sports.

I feel that our situation turned out very favorably due to the fact that everyone involved approached it with tact and discretion--mostly the girl participant. With a girl of less character, or a larger number of girls, I can imagine that some problems could easily arise.

I think the solution to this situation is to have highly skilled teams that compete on a regular weekly schedule for girls and then they would not need to turn to the boys' teams for a high level of skill competition. I do not feel that is the best thing for either the boy or the girl to compete on the same teams in high school. Professional golfers do not compete men against women. Both are skilled and compete against their sex.

Coaches

1. Indicate any problems which arose specifically as a result of having a girl on a boys' team.

	Yes	No
a. injuries		51
b. coaching	1	49
c. team morale, spirit		51
d. relationship between boy/girl	2	49
e. effort	1	50
f. starting team		51
g. practice sessions	1	50
h. supervision	4	47
i. other		51

2. What were the advantages or disadvantages in having a girl on:

a. squad

none	-9
more morale	-5
more supervision	-4
less morale	-3

b. starting team

none	-9
lower morale	-2
more competition	-2
boys tried harder	-2
no girl started	-2
embarrasses girl	-1
more serious approach	-1

3. Were there any schools that refused to compete against a girl? No - 52 Yes - 10

4. Would you have a girl on your team again? Yes - 52 No - 10 Preferably not- 1

5. Did you observe any differences with the boys in competing against a girl?

No - 40 Yes - 35 Sometimes - 5

6. Do you think that the boys held back or played their hardest when competing against a girl? Played hardest - 53 No difference - 17 Held back - 2

7. Do you think the experience for the boys was harmful:

	Yes	No
a. physically?		44
b. psychologically?	7	47
c. emotionally?	7	44
d. socially?		58
e. other?		58

8. Do you think the experience for the girl was harmful in the above dimensions?

No - 73 Yes - 2 At times - 2

9. Do you think the experiment should continue? Yes - 60 No - 15

10. Do you think this practice should be:

a. continued as an experiment? -- 29
b. accepted as legal policy? -- 35
c. discontinued? -- 20

11. Comments:

The girl I had on my squad had a great amount of amateur golf experience before she played for me. Both her and her skill in golf was greatly respected. She was thought of more as a golfer than a girl. She helped the team a great deal.

I feel that there should be a mandated girls' competitive athletics program. Direction given toward rules, events, number of matches, schedule sports, seasons, etc. Don't leave it up to local area to establish a program as this doesn't work Get financial support from legislature.

None really. I've enjoyed coaching this young lady, and have been pleasantly surprised by the reaction of her peers. All seemed to enjoy her presence on the course. Most complaints, if they can be called that (relying only on hear-say), came from some coaches at the sectionals who seemed to resent change in any form and felt this young lady was treading on hallowed grounds.

I think it would be a good idea to start a girls' golf league.

A woman supervisor is not needed because no showers or change of clothes is involved. It involves going directly from school to golf course, playing, and returning.

It seems to me that every effort should be made to encourage the formation of a girls' tennis league within the State of New York. Tennis has tremendous carry-over value and if girls do not learn and play in their early years, the opportunity may never again appear.

Speaking as the coach of 6 girls on a squad of 22 I feel that the girls benefitted in every way but one. This one would be the differences in ability. The girls were not and could not be used in "important meets" because they were not good enough to place. They realized that they were not expected to take a first place. Competition against other girls would provide them with an opportunity to excell. This was the greatest disadvantage. All of the girls improved some by as much as 12 seconds. I feel that any place where it is financially impossible to provide for separate teams a coed team should be instituted. The benefit far outweighs the minor administrative problems.

As a coach I had to adjust to the girls' sensitivity. They would react to pressure in some instances by becoming nervous to the point of crying. When being disciplined some of them resorted to pouting and other characteristic feminine ploys. However, I personally would be willing to coach girls again and this program has my firm support.

We have had girls in our rifle club and on the team for years. They compete equally with the boys. In fact some times the girls are the best marksmen.

A worthwhile program that is a definite plus for this sport. In practice the program was healthy for our students and those we competed against. I would gladly participate in such a program again; and the same unsolicited opinion was given to me by virtually all of the coaches and competitors from other schools. The competitors felt that it is "just more fun to compete when there are girls in the match." No negative comments were even heard by me.

Swimming was a sport the girls could come out for and in early stages of the season with young and inexperienced boys just developing the skills, competition was equal and worthwhile--the girls could do the job. Over the season, the boys developed the strokes and conditioning (strength and endurance) took over and in most cases the girls were left behind. I believe the girls were good competitors and deserved the chance but to have any chance of success must compete against their own.

I have found this experience to be uplifting to our schools' sports program. I wish to have a permanent co-ed rifle team from now on. The boys have turned into real sportsmen and athletes as well as gentlemen. They are getting the real meaning of cooperation and gaining a respect for women no classroom can teach at their ages. The girls are feeling equally as important for the first time in high school sports.

Girls teams coached by women physical education people.

I hope in the near future girls' teams will be formed so that girls compete against girls.

Our situation was unique mainly because the parents provided all transportation and supervision. The girl was an exceptional diver of national caliber for her age group. She set school records and placed 2nd in sectional championship. Many of her practices were private lessons which alleviated the number of sessions spent with our diving team. When working with our team she proved to be helpful and instrumental in improving our other divers.

Stronger programs in athletics for girls is needed. I would favor girls competing with girls.

Boys and girls compete in most junior bowling leagues and by the time they reach high school bowling with or against girls is an accepted fact.

Once again, all went well. Very happy to have had the opportunity. I would hope I may continue to do so in future years.

We had only one girl on an otherwise all boys' team. I feel that 2 girls or more may have been better. The problems that arose were too many. I would never coach another coed team. The physical aspects of our range are not too good for coed participation. Only one team refused to allow girls to participate for record. I believe this plan could be continued as an experiment.

Since swimming is a cumulative sport, more than one year is needed to properly evaluate the girls ability to develop strength, endurance and speed with the same lead up and progression as the beginning or novice male swimmer.

This experiment was a complete success for us. Miss_____ made a very significant contribution to our swimming team and to her school. She was very proud to be able to help represent her school, and the student body was quite enthusiastic in their support of her effort.

On the whole I feel this experiment was most successful as far as our particular school was concerned. Any problem that came up would have happened if there had been girls on the team or not. The boys on my team were for the most part perfect gentlemen and most helpful when the girls needed any particular help with their swimming skills. The team spirit was very good and the boys showed just as much enthusiasm when the girls were competing as they did with the boys. I saw no evidence, with my team members, of any dislike for having the girls on the team. If anything, I believe the boys were happy to have them. Also,

with a school of our size and with 3 winter sports we would not have had a full team without the addition of the girls, which was another advantage to us. I was very pleased with the results of the project and hope it will be able to continue, if only on an experimental basis. We did have some opposition from 2 or 3 coaches within the league but no refusals to swim against us. I saw little evidence of opposition from members of the other teams. The only serious problem we had was about dressing facilities in one school, but we were able to solve this problem without too much difficulty.

My comments seem very favorable as I read them. They are, I believe, a fair opinion in my situation. My situation was novel (or ideal) in the sense that I only had one girl, a dedicated, reliable person. The boys on the team went out of their way to cheer her on and encourage her. They were very considerate. She was a diver, not in competition with the majority of the team. Maybe other coaches in different circumstances faced many problems I didn't face. Possibly my favorable opinion is based on the faulty premise that could come with an ideal situation like mine.

I believe that all girls should be given a chance to compete in any individual sport offered in the public schools. I also would like to see all girl teams instead of mixed competition.

I believe girls should compete against girls, and boys against boys.

I accepted this experiment with mixed emotions. I had two girls, one was an exceptional athlete and scored highly in many meets. However, I find it difficult to relate closely with a girl athlete because their emotional level is different. They are "hurt" more easily by comments which are intended to be constructive criticism. They don't display a broad spectrum of understanding of the athlete in a pressure situation in competitive sports. They don't recover from failure as rapidly and are poor at disguising disappointment, which when overdone impairs their future performance.

I feel that this has been a very worthwhile and important study but after careful consideration and study I feel that girls should have their own team, own separate coach (not necessarily a woman), own training time and facility without interference from boys, and be given an adequate competitive schedule, rules and a girls' league formed in each Section of the State. Girl swimmers should be given an equal opportunity in the sport of swimming and diving as boys. If a girl knows that she would have to compete at the level of a male swimmer most likely not as many females would strive for competition. A girls'team would gear workouts appropriate to the female swimmers and competition would be fair to all involved. The way it appeared to me was that an excellent or outstanding high school female swimmer didn't stand a chance against just a good high school boy swimmer. Over a period of time this could be frustrating to the outstanding female swimmer. If this same outstanding female swimmer were competing against other females she would succeed and her experiences would be more gratifying over a period of time. I would hope that other people in New York State feel the same about swimming as a specific and separate girls' sport. Being that most swimming pools are over used during the boys competitive swimming and diving season, the team

for our girls would have to hold their season either in the fall or during the spring season. A problem that may be encountered is that of appropriate and best personnel from the area of physical education not wanting to coach a girls' athletic team. If a women's athletic program is going to succeed and opportunity given to promotion of athletics for girls, our women physical educators are going to have to become more dedicated and spread out the work load between one another.

Our experience with the program this year has been a good one and I, for one, would like to try it again to see if any of our experiences would be different.

I feel that with the size of today's schools and the facilities available to them, that two separate teams should be maintained. In swimming especially, girls and boys competition are separate from age group at the YMCA through Olympic competition. I see no reason to break the pattern in high schools.

Boys and girls could meet on equal terms in tennis or golf, but not in track or swimming where the physical demands are tremendous. Girls should be encouraged to compete on a team of their own. Swimming events could be reduced such as 400-yard free style to 200 yards; 200-yard individual medley to 100; and the 100-yard butterfly to 50 yards. In time, girls could swim the same events as the boys. For years, AAU competition swimming has had separate qualifying times for boys and girls. They have realized, even in age group swimming, that girls (even the best) cannot compete against boys.

Mandate an interscholastic girls' athletic program and provide state funds to get the program established.

Men in the league--officials and other coaches--did not want girls to compete because they are girls. Very little was said of their ability. One girl was eliminated during county meet because she was not wearing a "boy's" uniform and because she was a girl--for no other reasons. Attitude of others makes it very difficult. Girls can be a real problem if they aren't serious about the sport. The three in gymnastics made the whole thing a pleasure.

In our society the male is losing his privileged position of being free from female competition in the business world. Competition from girls in a formerly unique boy oriented domain is a realistic step in the right direction.

I do believe that girls should have their own teams. Boys are too strong and too competitive for the average girl, only the rare exception could compete with them. Another thing is this, not many come out, to select from. Girls should be screened by having competition among themselves early enough to see what their potential is before they go out for a boys' team.

For too long in most school systems the female sports program has long been the pauper and the forgotten one. It is time that the state and local systems correct this laxity in the area of competitive sports and physical fitness. The most important areas, of course, are in the lifetime sports.

If a girl is good enough she should play. She should be treated as an equal with no concessions being made.

Sports competition is one of the few areas in today's world where men can compete against each other. While I believe the activities in track and field are within the capabilities of girls and women, I see no good reason to include them on the same teams with men. In place of this "experiment" it might do well to consider girls' teams, period. I imagine it would be less expensive in the long run if this type of program where put into effect rather than the current experiment. I might add that the girls all quit the team prior to our first interscholastic meet.

If girls were to be cut off from tennis they could defeat the city or State in any court action on grounds of discrimination. I am certain of it because I studied law.

This project should not be abandoned prematurely. I would say that another year might decide the issue. As it stands, not enough teams have girls on the team so I don't think it would be fair to judge now. My girls handled themselves very well. On numerous occasions, they played better than the boys on my team, and occasionally, they played better than their boy opponents. I think that many boys have learned to respect girls as competitors and I know that my girls would rather play against boys than against girls, simply because the competition is better.

Our only program was track and the two girls involved could defeat only about one boy on the squad. So they were more or less considered as merely a couple of girls "working out" at practice. There should be a place for girls to run track. If only from the P. F. involved. An interscholastic program or extramural program for girls alone with coaching regular practices, regular meets, is the answer. An occasional playday or field day will not satisfy this need.

We should provide girls' activities for girls.

We had only one girl. I felt she had more enthusiasm and desire than most of the boys. She really wanted to learn and compete. The main reason she came out was because she loves sports, especially tennis, and she gets no competition from the girls. She fully understood she might not get a letter, or even get into a match. She worked hard, was completely cooperative, and deserved to play more matches. I wish I had played her more. I think the above shows why our experiment, in my mind, was very successful. She was so easy to work with and get along with, and has progressed well. However, she may be the exception. Maybe all sports involving a girl wouldn't work out as well as tennis did for me.

As an athlete and coach I demand the utmost from all individuals; girls cannot, in my opinion, press themselves to a comparable physical degree as a boy. Lack of stamina is my biggest complaint.

The students realized the potential of tennis as an individual sport more fully. The boys acquired an awareness of a possibility of greater competition, equal to their own.

As there are boys with different levels of ability so are there girls. I feel the only thing affected by girls being on the team is the boys' pride if they lose to a girl.

Perhaps the sports in which a girl is allowed to participate should be limited to only tennis, golf, swimming, skiing and volleyball.

This sport is obviously not for the average girl, but for one who has better than average athletic ability and a tennis background. As you presently allow girls participation (that is asking for approval before the season begins), you tend to discourage the development of a female tennis player. This is because in our particular situation the school is almost the only place to play tennis. To select girl participants early in the season is to exclude all others and, therefore, limit and inhibit their development in the sport.

If a girls' team was established and a league formed, I would see no reason for the continuance of this experiment. Until then, I feel the program should be continued. I also feel that the program should be continued as an experiment. There may be some problems arising in the next few years that have not come to light this year.

I am in favor of having girls on the team. The reasons for some of my negative answers was because of the fact that the girls were beginners and of low ability their first year.

I had some trying experiences but perhaps with a different person, circumstances, etc., it would be better. But, I noted that none of the opposing coaches cared for this idea.

I feel that it was a successful year with a girl on the team. The other players looked upon her as a fellow tennis player and a fairly good one as well. She did everything that the boys did (running, drills, cals., etc.) and out of 7 players she was probably the 4th best. She was well liked and a real asset to the team. Other girls (4) tried out for the team but couldn't make it. None were given special treatment.

Mandate and provide funds for girls' athletic interscholastic sports program.

I feel the experience of girls playing varsity sports will promote the sports involved within the community and create more competitiveness in varsity sports. Girls will have a better and greater interest in physical education and interscholastic competition with this direct involvement. Finally, the girls will gain more of the desirable school spirit that can come with competitiveness.

Golf being a "social" sport or "carry-over" sport should be emphasized more. Facilities for a good golf program in most areas would be limited.

The experiment certainly prevailed a spirited climate. It seemed to help the girls and boys understand one another better.

There seems to be no place in boys' competition for girls. There is a need for girls athletic competition and the downfall seems to come in the area of women's physical education instruction. Women physical education instructors should be more willing to take girl interscholastic athletics and if time is not available for them it should be made available.

This project I feel has been successful. I do feel that schools should attempt to have as many activities of a competitive nature for girls as boys. ideally there should be interschool competition for girls in most sports. This should be girls competing against girls.

Our girls involved this year were not as physically strong as boys and generally it would be a rare occasion for most girls to compete against boys. If girls are good enough to make the team they should be allowed to compete.

High school tennis lends itself to competition between boys and girls, it is a definite benefit to the girls--it improves their game.

I feel with a couple of years of experience and more self confidence in their ability to compete against boys the girls will do well. I also think with more girls participating in the future it will help their confidence. The girls won't be so much on display.

There aren't enough schools doing it so we are too much of a novelty.

Visiting Coaches

1. Did you observe any differences with the boys in competing against a girl?

   No - 23 Yes - 15

2. Do you think that boys held back or played their hardest under the conditions?

   Tried hardest - 24 Same - 12 Held back - 10

3. Did any of the boys not want to compete against a girl? No - 31 Yes - 8

4. Do you think this experience was harmful to the boy?

	Yes	No
a. physically		39
b. psychologically	4	35
c. emotionally		39
d. socially	1	38
e. other		39

5. If a girl were competent enough to be on your team, would you allow her on your team? Yes - 28 No - 11

6. Comments:

Without female supervision.

We as physical educators are 100 years behind the times.

What harm can come of a girl participating against boys in non-contact sports?

Only that if we wish women to compete in tennis with men, we should keep it on a mixed doubles basis.

Personally, as a coach in tennis, I think it is an excellent idea to have girls compete with boys in this sport. Physically and emotionally I do not think the girls are at a disadvantage. Girls competing in tennis will add popularity to high school tennis as well as fostering better boy-girl relationships.

Equal competition is low--that is why we rate schools AA, A, B, C, D. Of course, it is possible on occasion, that a top D school could defeat a weak double A. However, the AA school will avoid this competition--normally it is no fun to beat the D school; in off years, it is embarrassing to play and lose to them. There is nothing to gain and everything to lose. As I see it, the same feeling exists in boy-girl competition. The boy is expected to win. It is no fun to win, but it is terrible to lose, Incidentally, the tennis coach from a school in a league other than ours, told me that he definitely counted on the opponent (boy) not playing as well when he was coming up against his girl player. (In our school district we have an eleven year old girl - 6th grade - who is ranked in the Eastern States in doubles - 12 years and under - was a winner last summer in the Eastern State Championship.) So, my views are not "sour grapes" because I can't have a girl participant.

Yes, there should be provision made for girls' swim teams to compete in the Spring after the boys' season is over.

From the experience we have had here this year, I would say that girls should not practice and compete with boys.

I feel that the experimental project was for the outstanding or exceptional girl. Out of all that competed in Section V, I can only name one on a (_____) team (a diver) who would fall under these terms. She dives year round for _____ Swim Club. The only other diver, _____, in this Section, from _____ would not compete on the team since she dives year round with _____ and A.A.U. I feel the girls should have equal opportunity for swimming, but on girls' teams with other girls. It is to their advantage.

I think the experience of fencing a team with girls on it sparked much more than the usual interest in our matches. Since the girls were for the most part beginners, our advanced fencers were very willing to help them out. I think most of the boys were willing to accept girls as fencers, as most fencers realize that size is not of major importance in fencing. Since fencing is completely devoid of girls (no cheerleaders) it was nice to see the added femininity. However, I'm not sure I would want to see an all boys' team compete with an all girls' team. But, otherwise, the mixed group seemed to work very well.

I believe that girls' competition should be against other girls, with more emphasis on greater numbers so that competition is possible. This competition in skiing exists girls vs. girls on an interscholastic level of competition in Grand Slalom, X-country, and sometimes downhill. It will expand with proper guidance.

I did not like the idea at all when the program was first announced. I have changed my mind to some extent. I do not feel that all girls could successfully compete with boys in swimming. I feel some girls could but they would have to be carefully screened. I feel that a very important change could be made in regards to the number of events a swimmer may participate in. I feel a boy should be able to participate in 2 individual events - to include diving - and 1 relay. Swimming is no more strenuous than track where a boy may, under certain conditions, compete in 3 events. I am considering applying for the permission necessary for girls to compete next year in swimming here in _____.

A multi-level program of development can be more easily established with girls as participants.

Girls should be allowed to compete in any non-contact sport if they desire to.

I have coached varsity swimming for four years. We have won two league championships. I am heartily in favor of having girls on the swim team. We had four girls come out for the team, but the school board would not allow them to compete.

Boys were impressed with the girls' abilities; but felt bad because some of the girls in our high schools were not allowed to compete as a result of our Physical Education Director. I would like to see both a boys' and girls' team; but where this is not possible, due to time, facilities or supervision as in our case, I feel that a co-ed team should be allowed.

This year I had a female manager and a female statistician who were very strong swimmers. We wanted them to swim but because of lack of money for a female chaperone we were unable to use them in competition. Perhaps next year we will be able to use them.

Normal teen-age boys and girls have sex interests - reactions and needs that are certain to distract them from anything else they are doing. I believe if you have been out in the real world you will agree. Rifle ranges are not the place for social relationships. There are plenty of other opportunities. I'll stop here rather than writing a book on this subject.

I believe that interscholastic competition should be limited to boys against boys or girls against girls. The only apparent drawback to such a situation especially in schools with limited enrollments, would be the lack of sufficient girls to make up a team in a particular sport area plus finding adequate personnel for coaching duties.

In my situation I saw no harmful effects from girls participating in rifle competition. Although the girls on the opposing team, with one exception, were not particularly talented in rifle, they probably could be in the future. My boys did not want to lose to the girls, and didn't. However, in the

intersectional competition at _____, a girl took 2nd place ahead of all my shooters. Surprisingly, this had no noticeable effect on them and they showed great respect for her score and ability.

As you can see from page one, the _____ Central School swim team did not compete extensively with girls on other teams. Two years was hardly enough time for the girls to compete on a level with the boys. I have serious reservations regarding the use of girls on a full time basis. Some of these reservations are:

a. Will swimming be branded a "sissy sport" thus reducing the number of boys wishing to join?
b. Will male officials have difficulties making judgments against female competitors?
c. Will boys be attracted to a sport which concernably might be dominated (in numbers) by girls?
d. What will be the over all effect of a large number of boys losing to a large number of girls?
e. How hard could I, as a coach, push a girl in practice and competition?
f. How will schools be classed under the new system? Class A, B, C, or D?

_____ is a small school. In terms of numbers, girls would give me greater drawing power in selecting a team. If my reservations listed above are unfounded, I would definitely be for girls participating.

Miss _____ was an excellent person. She was an excellent bowler and was excellent competition for the other team members. There was a good deal of admiration and respect for her and her ability. I favor girls competing against boys in non-contact sports.

My team members weren't negatively affected by competing against girls. We, however, have a girl team member.

I, personally, do not like to see boys participate against girls. I would like to see more competition for girls against girls and stay out of boys' programs.

After observing the swim meet between _____ and _____, the fact that _____ had a female competitor had little effect on the overall meet. There were few inconveniences, but no major problems. By inconveniences; separate changing and showering facilities were needed, and certain candid comments--like only boys can make them--were noticeable while the young lady was competing. All in all, the presence of a female competitor had no effect on the outcome and little effect on the general atmosphere of the meet. However, I do have some personal feelings concerning the "broad" topic of combining females with males on the same competitive team.

Since our discussion is mainly concerned with swim teams, I would have to state very definitely that I would not be in favor of the merger. I feel rather strongly that wherever possible, a girls' team should be formed. It would take, however, a few individuals who would be willing to coordinate the program and "make it work." Schedules, traveling expenses, availability of facilities, a willing and capable coach are all items which could be worked out.

If we as swim coaches at this time go along with the idea of having females compete on our teams, we would be setting the stage for female entries in other sports such as tennis and golf. If one agrees with this idea, then I see no limit as to how far it would go. In few athletic contests, in my opinion, do girls even approach the ability level of the boys, especially in high school.

Your Department ought to make known the facts of this survey. I think you should continue the experiment in golf.

My feelings is that girls belong on a girls' program and not a boys' program. I do not approve.

I would like to see girls play either on an all girls' golf team against another all girls' golf team, or 6th position (girl) against 6th position girl of another golf team.

I would like to see our girls participating on a scholastic level with other girls. I feel a girls' program has long been lacking in New York State, and that the public is now ready to accept girls' sports on a scholastic level.

I have three girls on my team--one has played regularly for two years and I definitely hope she will be available next spring. Most of the girls who have competed in matches the past two years have definitely been able to hold their own against most of the boys. The girls are accepted as a member of the team and given no special privileges, nor do they request any. Without a doubt when the first match between a girl and boy in the spring of 1969 was held, there was probably some apprehension on the part of the boy, especially in our match, since the girl playing was one who had petitioned that the law be changed to allow girls to compete. The match had been discussed for days in the local paper and reporters were at the match. Once it was over the publicity subsided and in our league the girls were very much accepted and valued as members of the tennis team. I think the competition has been good for the girls. The parents of the girls on my team believe that their children have been helped greatly--especially socially. I am definitely in favor of continued girls' participation.

If a majority of schools decided that girls were acceptable in tennis, then I would naturally accept this. At the moment it is in the experimental stage as you mentioned. But I do not feel that having girls on the team would be detrimental in any way.

From my experience of trying to develop competition among equals, I thought the idea was out of line--few of the female track athletes in America would score in our County Championships. I would support a separate but equal track program for girls. I have 2 daughters and 26 girls in a Track Boosters Club who help organize and run our home dual meets.

If girls are good enough to make the team, they should play.

I am one of the people who caused a little revitalization in girls' sports. I had a girl on my team three years ago, after the fourth match she was removed, reluctantly, by the chief principal who thought he had to do so. I investigated and discovered to everyone's astonishment that there isn't and never was restricitions of any kind on girls in tennis and some other sports. I am all for it.

Let the girls stick to their own programs. I would not knowlingly schedule an opponent again who included girls on their squad.

Keep girls out of boys' athletics. Provide competition for girls if the need is evident.

It should be noted that the girl competing against us finished last in her event.

As I stated last year, at first I was against playing girls, but the number 1 player in our league last year was a girl, _____, of _____. She made me see how wrong I was. I feel if a girl is good enough to play against boys then she is good enough to play in a sport such as tennis. All the traditionalists will probably yell and scream but on the high school level with our style of play and the type of participants who play tennis, I see nothing wrong with this, and hope it continues. So, girls obviously aren't good enough to play against boys and should be on an all girls' team, but for those certain few that are good enough to play against the boys, they should be given the chance.

We have some excellent players among the girls beginning to appear in tennis in the _____ area. Boy-girl competition is great for them, but I am afraid that it is of no help for the boys. I feel a little better about them than I did a year ago. However, I cannot yet say that I favor boy-girl competition in tennis (although our Jay Vee coach worked with girls this year for the first time).

One girl beat my third place boy in both match and stroke play. He was very upset in that he was beaten by a girl. The other players kidded him some but they understood that they could have been in the same position. My fifth place man beat another girl. So there were no problems. I guess the boys do not object to competing against a girl as long as they win.

Boy Teammates

1. What were the differences, if any, in competing against a girl rather than a boy?

- none	- 47	- language and behavior improved	- 2
- need to win	- 6	- girls are distracting	- 1
- prestige	- 5	- woman supervisor distracting	- 1
- weaker	- 5	- close match	- 1
- embarrassing to lose	- 3		

2. Did you feel more than usual pressure to win against a girl than a boy?

Yes - 38 No - 37 Depends - 2 At first - 1

3. Did you feel that competing against a girl was harmful to you in any of the following areas?

	Yes	No
a. physically		82
b. emotionally	8	74
c. socially	3	79

4. After competing against a girl, how did each of the following treat you, and how did you feel about their reactions?

   a. teammates: No different - 35 teased - 11 curious - 1 happy - 1

   b. coach: No different - 52 good for spirit - 1 teased - 1

   c. boys, non-teammates: No different - 38 teased - 16 curious - 1 happy - 1

   d. girls, non-teammates: No different - 45 teased - 1 inquisitive - 1 happy - 1 curious - 1 sympathetic - 1

5. Would you rather compete against a boy or a girl?

   Boy - 44 No preference - 28 Girl - 11

6. Do you think that girls, if they are good enough to make the team, should be allowed on boys' teams? Yes - 73 No - 14

7. Comments:

   Girls have every right to compete.

   Helpful to both parties.

   In full agreement with experiment.

   Asset.

   Surprised with her skill.

   Look forward to having her on the team.

   About time girls were allowed on boys' teams (if they are physically fit).

   It's the skill that counts, not the sex.

   O.K. for girls in non-contact sports.

   A supervisor who is a non-competitor can become bothersome.

   That this particular girl was not out for any special attention. She had the desire to compete and the will to run with the rest of the group. I really didn't have to worry about competing against her because she was, for the most part, J.V.

The addition of girls to an athletic event was a very enjoyable experience and I would like to see this practice continued in high school sports.

Girls should be allowed to be on teams if they are good enough.

Skiing involves long bus rides, the presence of girls tended to prevent some of the boredom on these trips, this was the most noticeable effect they had on the sport.

The girls were good shots and a lot of fun to have as teammates. It kind of makes you feel proud. We have something other school teams we've shot against don't have--girl shooters, and they out shot everybody.

I have been impressed by the performance of some female individuals. They give their male counterparts more incentive. Putting girls on boys' swimming teams is not right. Girls should have their own inter-high-school teams where they can compete with themselves. Most girls are not good enough to compete among boys and there are surely enough girls to compete on teams. I have not seen any girls so far, taking any really supporting role on any team.

I have nothing against the girls swimming. They should not swim with boys, they should have their own team. Unless they are _____ or _____ they can't compete against boys. Some of the girls in our league can't even hit respectable J.V. teams. Also, it is a great phenomenon to have them on the team. The newspaper gave them numerous articles before they even swam. This caused a reaction from the rest of the team. Practice didn't seem as fun with them on the team. They seemed to do as they pleased while we were working. In closing, I would like to say it was an experience swimming with them, whether it was good or bad, I don't really know.

In _____'s case, the girl and her family used the swim team to further their own glory. They didn't care about the team, only about the publicity. The girl was in a difficult position because of the continuous pressure from her parents. The team was constantly distracted during practice and meets. They thought it was great but I was the only one in the league who had to live with it. The only thing I got out of it was good coaching. In conclusion, varsity sports are the only place where one does not hear high voices. Let the boys compete with the boys and organize an active girls' sports program. The boys want to impress the girls. Competing with the girls takes away from this.

There is a certain possibility of relationship between the two interferring in their work especially if their attention is not directed to their sport.

I believe that the common girl is not ready psychologically to compete. But the girls who go out for swimming are conditioned competitors who are well prepared for what's in store for them. They have been racing on AAU and YMCA teams for a long enough time to withstand the mental strains, the physical agonies and the monotonous practices. In short, competition is not meant for every girl just as it is not meant for every boy. Those who desire it, can, and will, get it.

I feel that a girl's place is in the role of a mother. It is not right for a girl to be competing against a boy. It would be harmful to our mode of life and the role that most women play in it. I feel that girls should have different leagues if they had them at all.

I believe that any girl who is good enough to make a team can be an asset provided that she is dealt with in a manner which is exactly the same as the manner with which the boys are dealt. Otherwise, I believe that they might have a severe psychological effect on the boys. If any definite problems ensue, because of the type of girls or type of boys on a team, which are obviously detrimental to the team, and no solutions can be worked out, then the parties to blame should be dropped from the team with equal severity given the boys and the girls.

During the end of the season when _____ left, we could have possibly won a few meets we lost. If the girls could get together a swimming club and compete against different schools just like their basketball team, I think we boys on the swimming team would give up a few or all the 9th periods for the girls to practice.

The questionshere seem designed to cover sports in general; however, I think bowling is a special situation. I don't think there is any real reason why the sex of a bowler should matter. There is no physical contact. It is a question of knocking down pins. For this reason the idea of competition is less applicable to bowling than other sports. My reactions to these questions would probably be very different for some other sport. Concerning the first questions on the sheet, it should be kept in mind that the only time I "competed against" the girl was in trying out for the team. Most of the time (during the season) I was competing with her, against other teams. The answers I gave are my feelings on having a girl as a member of the team.

If girls have the ability to keep up with boys, I find that they are usually considered "just one of the guys".

Boys rules must be met by all competitors. No adjustments shall be made in practice, training or competition schedules or routines.

Girls who have the ability should be given the chance to compete.

One of the biggest assets to having a girl on an athletic squad is her effect on the male members of the team. By this, I mean their overall attitude as to behavior and the "foul" language problem that is becoming accepted by our present day high school students. I found this, foul language, practically non-existent due to the presence of a girl on the squad. The boys also seemed to have more team spirit, which often is lacking in tennis.

No, just that I think they should be allowed to play.

The team morale was not affected by having girls on the team. Original ideas of having girls on the team were wrong.

I think as a whole girls should be kept separate from the boys simply for the reason that most girls can't successfully compete with boys. But the exceptional girls, if their times and distances are good enough, should be allowed to compete with boys.

A lot of boys want it kept as a man's sport and not a feminine one.

Girls are generally much harder to "rattle" or get "shook up". They are emotionally stabler than most boys. Therefore, a blend of those varying qualities rounds out a team's build, emotionally, physically and spiritually.

Have separate teams.

I think it is interesting and fun.

Let's keep American sports male dominated. If a girl gets into the act it will take away from the feeling of competition. If girls should compete, it must be in non-contact sports; tennis, track, golf, etc.

When competing against a girl, the player does not play to win for the team, he is defending his masculinity and self pride. Also he is not used to competing with them and cannot get into the right mood.

It was good to have a girl on the team. It was good experience for her and us. This could be a new innovation in sports. There are girls in this world who are better than boys and this gives them a chance to compete in boys' competition.

I think that if the girl I had competed against had beaten me, it would have been a different story.

If girls had the chances like boys in sports, I think it would be very close competition. Because the more practice, the more skill and consistency along with power. Football and maybe baseball girls wouldn't be as good as boys even with practice. But the other sports girls would have just as much chance as boys and maybe more. Mostly, because girls would usually have more time for this.

I feel that many girls in all the competing schools would like to try tennis, especially in our school.

On the whole, I do think that girls should play in boys' non-contact sports, but only if they earn the position as a boy would. Everything should be unbiased.

I think if all teams had girls on them the "psych-out" would disappear and the game would go back to its normal pace. There should be no special treatment or conditions for girls and they should rank on the team according to their ability relative to the others on the team. We should rid ourselves of the expression "They're good for girls." If they can't beat boys on the team they don't belong on the team, but I would welcome their presence in future matches.

Allow the girls to participate in a sport--tennis.

Girls must give 100% all the time if they make a boys' team even though they might think that they are special.

I think girls need sports because of their poor present physical ability. Girls can beat boys as runners and in other areas of life. Too many people do not like changes.

I think girls should be able to play on boys' teams. Too much stress is being placed on the situation between a boy playing a girl. If the guy gets beat, so what. The girl was better than he. If the guy doesn't like to admit this, then he has a serious problem.

Some of the penalties that we suffered by having a girl on the team were that some of the other teams dropped us off their schedule. That meant that _____ and _____ would have no championship match. We only had 6 or 7 matches where other schools had 15 or 20.

If the girl or girls are not good enough to make the team or does not try hard enough, she should not be given any exceptions or special privileges.

Girls don't seem to take practice seriously. They require more attention for less work and worth to the team. The girls seem to go out for the sport for merely attention from the papers, etc. The girls in the area didn't provide as much competition as boys.

She feels a little more spirit than most of the boys and likes to play as fair as possible. Our challenging for positions is adequate enough that it gives her and any other boy a chance to compete in matches.

Despite the fact that girls who are equal in ability to boys should be allowed to compete on a boys' team, I feel there should be a distinction. Girls should have their own teams because this gives only the very best girls a chance to compete.

Girls' leagues are fine, but I don't see any reason to keep girls out of school sports if they are willing to be treated equally.

Try to get girls' teams for the sports but allow them to play on boys' teams if they want to and can make the team.

The program should be continued with the hope that we may eventually get some good girls who may come up to or reach the athletic abilities in track and field of the boys.

I say no because the girls think that they are looked on as innocent girls and they think they don't have to practice as hard as boys because boys are tougher.

Just that I enjoyed playing with the girls on our team and I think that girls with ability should play tennis.

Girls tend to be lazy, claiming that "we're not boys." That is just the point. Obviously, they are not boys but they're going to have to work just as hard if they intend to stay on the team. If they can make it or are willing to try their best, great. If not, they don't belong on the team. (Boys alike)

I am hoping to compete against girls from other schools in sports and I would also like to have girls on the various teams at _____ in the coming year.

I think having females participate in minor sports adds: interest, control, behavior improvement, respect, etc.

If a girl can play a sport as well as a boy, she should be allowed to play. At first, the situation would probably cause joking, but this would not be too severe and once the novelty has worn off, it would pretty much end. If a girl does play in a sport, the rules should be applied uniformly so she is not given an unfair advantage due to her sex.

Girls in girls' program, and boys in boys' program.

The girls we played had a very good all around game and they certainly gave us competition. I enjoyed playing against them.

Half team felt there should be separate girls and boys teams.

When a girl goes out for a team she has less to lose than a boy. Perhaps it is more important that boys play than girls, although my answer to #9 remains the same.

There should be separate girls' teams so that girls could have equal competition.

If it is a non-contact sport then I think it is all right to be on a boys' team.

As _____ has been the only girl I have seriously had to compete against, that in playoffs for position on the _____ team, my comments must be in light of my experiences in playing with and against her. But once on the court, I always found my biggest problem to be _____'s fine crosscourt forehand rather than any difficulty related to sexual development. Based on my personal friendship with her and the 15 victories she brought our team these last two seasons, I am not sorry the State Education Department ruled to let girls play tennis two years ago.

I feel that girls should not only be allowed to play non-contact sports in the State, but the entire nation --Ability over Sex!

I believe you are treating cases like this as if having a girl on the team made a major difference. I realize this is something new, though. On a golf team (as is probably the case with tennis, too) a girl makes no major difference. She must compete equally with us to win, and must take the same breaks. The only major detriment is emotionally. Girls tend to get emotional, and in golf, as in any other sport, this is quite troublesome, not just to the individual but more important to the team. I believe girls can successfully compete in sports.

Boys - Visiting Teams

1. What are the differences, if any, in competing against a girl rather than a boy?

- none	- 22	- afraid to lose to her	- 1
- didn't play as hard against her	- 4	- they take your mind off the game	- 1
- embarrassing to lose	- 3	- teased by other teammates	- 1
- tried harder	- 2		

2. Did you feel more than usual pressure to win against a girl than a boy?

No - 19 Yes - 12 Depends - 3 At first - 1

3. Do you feel that competing against a girl was harmful to you in any of the following areas?

	Sometimes	Yes	No
a. physically		2	38
b. emotionally	1	2	35
c. socially	2	2	34

4. After competing against a girl, how did each of the following treat you?

a. teammates: No different - 15 Teased - 4 sympathetic - 1

b. coach: No different - 17 Teased - 1 take it easy on girl - 1
good for spirit - 1

c. boys, non-teammates: No different - 13 Teased - 6

d. girls, non-teammates: No different - 17 Teased - 3

5. Would you rather compete against a boy or a girl?

No preference - 20 Boy - 15 Girl - 1

6. Do you think that girls, if they are good enough to make the team, should be allowed on boys' teams? Yes - 24 No - 7

7. Comments:

Girls should have girls' teams.

Yes, let the girls play in volleyball or gymnastics. Keep them out of boys' varsity sports.

I don't think it would be good in contact sports.

Girls should not receive any special privileges or the boys' morale tends to go down.

I feel there are many sports where the girl is just not capable of competing with boys on a high level.

No. All the topics I had thought of you have mentioned. If girls can make the team, then I feel more power to them.

They should have a separate swim team.

Girls shouldn't be given any special privileges.

The only thing that ever really bothered me was that I was the only boy competing against a girl. I lost once against a girl and won once against her. I knew that she was as good as I was and very well qualified to compete. I hope if our coaches bring girls into their teams, that they bring more than one or not have any at all.

I have been in other swimming leagues and have raced girls so possibly I am accustomed to it. At this point, when we swam against the girls, we anticipated them to be good because they were on a boys' team. I do not really think it bothered me to be beaten by one because I beat her the second time. Girls should be allowed to be on boys' swim teams and others, but I doubt football.

Can be dangerous and costly if the girls affect others emotionally or by changing one's score 'cause he has certain other things on his mind. Don't let them join if you find out the only reason she is on the team is because she has a well-known (to her) guy on the team. Let's face it, you're not going to die just because you're not near her, guys.

I hated competing with girls and almost dropped from the team. But, if a girl is good enough, that's all that counts!

Just that girls should not be allowed in boys' athletic competition because of the fact that there is "extra" pressure mentally involved with boys toward girls. By "extra" pressure, I mean that there is already pressure from other male shooters but having female competition might make a male try harder, but a person can try too hard. It's a fact that males try to impress females, but how can he when she is better than he?

Girls seem to add to the team attitude and winning desire.

I think that girl competitors really put the pressure on the boys because the boys hate to be shown up by a girl in a boys' sport.

I think a girl competitor should not be discriminated against in non-contact sports. If they're good enough to be on the team, it's their right, and they shouldn't be deprived of it.

When a team got beat by a girls' team, they found it harder to take than by a boys' team.

Girls make the sport more interesting in some cases.

I think that if a girl wants to be in a sport with boys, it is perfectly all right. Girls tend to be as good or even better than boys in some sports, and I

think that if a girl is confident enough she will do good. In sports it all depends on concentration and your physical ability. Any girl that can hold up a 10 pound rifle and shoot a 30-shot match and end up with a 285 out of 300, isn't bad at all.

When I was bowling this past year on the team, there was a girl on a visiting team and I saw that she was really a great help in keeping the guys temper down. She really and truly made a difference in the team's attitude at the alley. I myself, enjoyed bowling against her, because she wasn't that scuzzy looking!

I am for girls competing on varsity teams. It's good for the girls and the boys because it builds lasting friendships. The idea behind sports (interscholastic) is to build sportsmanship, to make yourself physically fit, and to build good conduct. Are boys the only ones who may achieve these goals?

Girl Participants

1. What problems did you have during practice sessions?

- none	- 72	- no self-confidence	- 1
- exercise too strenuous	- 1	- woman supervisor couldn't make it	- 1
- boys' language and actions	- 1		

2. Do you think that the boys played their best against you?

Yes - 87 No - 2 Most boys - 1

3. Do you think that the boys behaved differently at practice when you are around?

No - 59 Yes - 44

4. Do you think that the practice sessions were too strenuous?

No - 89 Yes - 4 Sometimes - 2

5. Do you feel all of the boys accepted you as a team member?

Yes - 74 No - 13 Most boys - 1

6. Did you feel a part of the team or an individual player?

Team - 85 Individual - 5 Both - 1

7. Do you feel you received more attention than other team members?

No - 79 Yes - 6 Sometimes - 1 In the beginning - 1

8. When you won a game, did the boys treat you differently?

No - 48 Yes - 23 Little difference - 15 Never won - 5

9. When you lost, how did the boys behave toward you?

- no different - 59
- encouraging - 7
- sympathetic - 4
- friendlier - 2
- kidding - 1

10. Did the following persons treat you any differently since being on a boys' team?

	Yes	No
a. girls in school	6	48
b. teachers	8	47
c. women and men physical education teachers	6	49
d. boys	10	46
e. community	4	50

11. If you had your choice of being on a boys' team or a girls' team, which would you choose? Boys - 36 Girls - 18 No preference - 3

12. How has being a team member affected:

a. school work: No change - 58 Decreased - 5 More attention - 4

b. social activities: No change - 58 Increased - 7 Decreased - 2

c. home life: No change - 70 Increased time - 1 Decreased time - 1

13. Are there girls in your school that challenge your playing abilities?

No - 65 Yes - 27 Don't know - 1

14. Are there girls on other school teams that provide a challenge for you?

No - 67 Yes - 24 Don't know - 1

15. Do you think being on the team created many problems?

No - 73 Yes - 10 Some - 2

16. Knowing what you know, would you want to be on the boys' team again?

Yes - 89 No - 1

17. Would you advise other girls to go out for boys' teams?

Yes - 85 If willing to work and qualify - 4 No - 3

18. Would you rather compete against a boy or a girl?

Boy - 38 Girl - 22 No preference - 17

19. Do you feel that competing against a boy was harmful to you in any of the following areas?

	Yes	No
a. physically?		109
b. emotionally?	1	109
c. socially?	2	109

20. Comments:

Team should be picked by skill, not by gender.

Great experience, worth training and practice.

If I had known this, I would have tried harder in my junior high school year.

Want to do it again.

Enjoyed the daily workouts.

Good idea. Gives girls something to be interested in.

Realize girls can be part of a team, still be a girl, be herself, and be an individual.

Went out because I loved the game.

I had alot of fun this past Fall, and I wouldn't trade it in for anything else. Everyone showed respect, I think, and no one made fun of me at all. Every guy on my team and the other teams were very considerate, polite and almost perfect gentlemen. After every race "everyone" that I ran against came up and shook my hand and complimented me on how I did.

This has been a very enjoyable and rewarding experience for me. Without this program I would not have been able to compete in my sport due to the lack of competition in the particular sport. I felt I was very much a part of the team; the boys were very helpful at all times.

Competition has strengthened my character.

A girl needs to feel part of her school as well as a boy and being on a school team means just as much to a girl as it does to a boy.

I feel that if a girl works hard and can keep up with the boys, she should be allowed to participate with the boys. I also feel that the girl shouldn't be allowed to get away with things and be favored just because she wants to be on the team for rewards other than athletic.

I think it would be good if each high school had an all girls' team. The girls would only race against girls.

I enjoyed being on the team very much and it was a wonderful experience I will remember forever. It was probably because the guys on my team were the greatest in the world. They made the difficult situation of being on the team easy. They always treated me like a girl; besides being a teammate. I was feminine. My coach never made a big production of my joining the team and this helped the situation too. I think I should add that I have known many of these boys all my life, practically. I would not recommend a girl going out for the team unless she can win fairly often.

Being on a boys' team was a great challenge and experience. If someone is really serious about a sport, it shouldn't matter whether it's coed or not. The only problem is what girls should wear. I think it's better for girls to wear slacks just so the girl feels more comfortable with boys around.

I would like to say that I really enjoyed swimming on the _____ boy's team. I believe that if a girl is good enough to keep up with the boys in a sport and there is no girls' team around, that she should be able to participate with the boys.

The men (adults against girls) are not used to having girls and they aim to keep them out. Well, speaking for myself, I'm going to try to do something about it.

I feel that if a girl is good enough to join the team that she should be able to belong. I see no reason why the idea of girls being on boys' teams should cease. There are no problems and it gives the boys competition and something to work for. Every girl should have the opportunity as many of us experienced this year.

I hope this project is passed or whatever you do to make it go through. I feel no different than the boys and you have never been through so many meaningful experiences than I have been.

Being on a boys'team was really very good for me. It was a lot of fun and I got a lot out of it. I love gymnastics and I was glad to have a chance to get into it. I hope I will be able to be in it again next year.

Only that I feel this is a great experiment and I hope it can continue. I feel a woman chaperon is unnecessary in this type of competition.

I think that girls being on a boys' team is a fantastic idea. For the girls who have the ability the competition is much better than you would find in a swim club. I think being on a boys' team makes a girl try harder to beat the boys and also to earn the privilege to remain on the boys' team. The boys also know when a girl needs an emotional lift and they can give it to you better than a girls' team could. The boys respected me as a swimmer and also showed me the respect due to young ladies. I think this program is fabulous for the girls who have the ability to compete with the boys and I hope it is continued in the years to come.

Even though I felt like a part of the team the majority of the time, there were times when I felt like an individual member. This would never happen if more girls had gone out for the team. In the future, I think more girls would go out for the team if given the chance. Only a few did this year because it's hard to be the first one and not too many girls seemed interested in swimming as a sport. I think girls should be allowed on boys' teams because so few problems arose.

I believe that the coach has a lot to do with the teams' outlook. The coach has to be an understanding man, very versatile, yet have interest in each swimmer. He must not have favorites, must work equal with each swimmer, regardless of his swimmer's experience and/or ability. Shouldn't be prejudice against opposite sex. Also try to help those swimmers who may have special problems. If he has and gives the swimmers respect and respects them as a team, he will receive an equal amount of respect.

Letting girls participate in non-contact sports is great. It is quite an experience. There are many outstanding girl athletes who are never given the chance to develop their skill. I'm a senior, now, and this was the first year girls could be on the ski team. If I were given the chance four years ago, I would have joined. There should also be teams such as football and basketball set up for girls. I enjoy playing all sports and would have loved to have been on other teams. It's important for people to be physically fit.

I don't know how representative my impressions are. Because of neck injury sustained while skiing, I've been out of competition for half of the season. For the first part of the year, I was surprised at the openness and good will on all sides. Teachers, coaches, team members and administrators all made an effort to help me get along. I felt that the other divers weren't crazy about me but I also felt that their reasons were more because I was "extra competition" rather than because I was a girl. The only problems I encountered were over locker rooms and other small matters and were easily cleared up. I feel that I have a good chance in the competition. If the program is continued next year I intend to join again. I don't really know how others feel or if I have caused any problems, but I am happy with the results so far and I hope that I will be able to compete next year.

When you're in an event everyone looks at you just because you are a girl. I always hear from people saying "that would be funny if the girl ever won". People prejudge you even before you swim. So, it makes me work harder swimming against boys.

I enjoyed being on the team very much. All the guys treated me really nice. Everytime I got on the board (to perform the dive) they always cheered me on. I think that just gave me confidence. All of us (the team) had a lot of fun and no matter what, we always tried our best. I would be very disappointed if I had to go on a girls' team because I would miss my coach an awful lot.

There should be a longer tennis season and more games. It was fun being on the boys' team regardless.

I feel that girls' participation in boys' sports should be stressed and encouraged more.

I enjoyed playing on the golf team this year. If there had been a girls' team I surely would have played on it. As it is, there are no girls' teams in this area.

I hope you will give other girls the opportunity to participate against male competitors. My appreciative thanks goes to the coaches, my supervisor, the school board, state officials, the members of the track team, and all other persons who made my year of participation in track a memorable and successful one. Thank you.

I really enjoyed competing on the boys' track team this year and thought it was an invaluable experience. Although most of my competing was done against girls from other schools on the guys' team, I really felt a part of my team. I hope I can be on the boys' track team next year because I am certain that around our area the schools wouldn't have a girls' interscholastic team. Mainly because of the apathy which prevails here. I would, however, prefer to run against girls because then I could test my true capabilities in sports against those of my own sex.

My main reasons for participating on the boys' team were: (1) the competition (2) the daily use of the tennis courts. My objective was mainly to improve my game, which was not really accomplished because the coach rarely had me, and the two other girls in the team, play in real competition against boys. I would have gladly participated on the girls' team but their team only had practices when the boys' team had away matches. But now that the girls' season is in the Fall, there won't be any conflicting schedules.

No comments other than that I enjoyed playing golf very much. But I don't feel as though girls should play on higher skilled boys' teams.

I originally went out for track this year to prove to myself and others that girls could compete on an equal basis with boys. I soon discovered that I couldn't beat anyone in my event, which is the 180-yard low hurdle, or, I assumed, anything else. I think this is due to the fact that as soon as school starts, boys and girls have different gym class programs--the boys' being more strenuous. I think that if I had exercised the same amount as a boy from elementary school on, I would be able to compete more ably. However, I strongly support girls' athletic teams. I think the reason girls are generally in such poor physical shape is that we have no competitive sports like the boys. I think there should be J.V. and Varsity teams in basketball, track, tennis, cross country, and baseball for girls and there should be equal requirements for girls to get their varsity letters. Being on the track team was a very rewarding experience for me and I hope girls will continue to be allowed to compete with boys or girls.

If a girls' interscholastic program that works as efficiently and has as much importance as a boys' program can be set up, I'd rather be on a girls' team.

If the girls teams would only be an "occasional" game or two, I'd benefit much more from being on the varsity tennis team. Also, girls should still be allowed to try out and be on the varsity team if good enough.

The only thing is that I never thought of all these questions and thoughts when I was playing tennis. I was just out for the experience and competition. I wanted to be on the team to have the opportunity to experience real skill and ability to use the sport, and to enjoy it for the sure experience and competition. I'm very grateful to have the permission given to me to be able to be part of the team. It gave me a different look at the sport in which I am very fond of. I like it even more.

No, except that I hope girls will continue to be able to play with and against the boys on a boy-girl team basis.

I love track and competing, but I'd rather compete with those at my level ability; that is, girls.

In my case, the Experimental Program was a complete success. Being on the team has enriched every aspect of my character--socially, mentally and physically. I see no reason why girls should not participate in a non-contact varsity sport if they are able to effectively compete with the boys.

I think boys have become rather narrow-minded in their outlook towards girls in sports, that up to now have been played by boys only. I feel that if a girl can play a sport as well, if not better, than a boy, she should definitely be allowed to play. Boys, try to understand, we don't want to take over your teams, we just want to be allowed to play in some worthwhile competition,because we enjoy playing that special sport.

The best of the girls will not be as good as the best of the boys because of the lack of equal strength and power. That is why I placed consistency and speed above strength as important for a girl. She would need the endurance and skill to keep the ball in play until her opponent makes a weak shot so she can put it away or wait for him to make the mistake. Talent should not be wasted. So, if there are no girls' teams in the non-contact sports then girls should be allowed to play with the boys.

I've gained a lot from it like the correct way to run, and I've met a lot of nice people on our team, other teams, and kids in school. If there had been more practice I feel I could have done better. I'm going to practice during the summer and winter for next spring.

I have enjoyed playing on this year's tennis team very much and hope to next year again. I have not been aware of any problems due to having girls on the team. In fact, sex was never a major issue. Each person was treated as an individual making up a team.

I enjoyed playing on the guys' tennis team and I learned a lot more about the game than I would have if I hadn't been on the team.

I enjoyed being on the boys' varsity tennis team. I didn't really play against a boy (I wasn't 1st string) except in practice sessions. I gained a lot of respect and understanding for varsity coaches and guys who go out for varsity sports. I feel more girls should at least be able to try out, if not make the team and compete.

I enjoy being on the golf team and I feel very privileged to be a part of it. I'd encourage many girls to try for it for the improvement of their own game and for a challenge and to set a goal for themselves.

I have enjoyed playing on a boys' team. I hope I am able to continue next year. The team members and the coach have treated me very well. All the boys played to win against me and most were successful.

I am glad that girls are able to play. I feel that if I am capable to win on a boys' team, I should be able to play. Playing in school matches has given me a lot of practice for summer.

I have given a great deal of thought as to whether or not girls should be allowed on a previously all boy team. Looking back on my experiences on the tennis team, I have come to some very definite conclusions. The other girl and I were not outstanding tennis players, but we did try out for the team just like any boy would have done. We were not outstanding, but we were just as good as some other guys on the team--not as good as the starting players, of course, but as good as some other players. It would be a great injustice if girls were not allowed on a team because they were only on a par with the boys. I think it was a good experience for the guys, too. They were not "distracted" and I am sure they had a lot of fun. A definite improvement in the Athletic Department of _____ would be to have intramural girls' teams. With the lack of funds that seem to be hampering our school department, I doubt very much that this will come to pass in the near future. It really seems a shame that girls do not have a sports department because, very frankly, we need it. There are too many girls who are not athletic to any degree whatsoever. Not only is it physically damaging to these girls but it is also leaving a void mentally. Girls do not have many opportunities to experience fair play. It is a large accomplishment when you can come back smiling after losing a match. In short, of course girls should be allowed on boys' teams if they're good enough. They are part of the student body and they can contribute to the school if the school will let them.

I hope that there will be girls on the team.

Keep the great program going. On Feministic Movement!

I would encourage the other girls to try out for the boys' team. I enjoyed being a part of the team. Being a member of the team gave me a chance to greatly improve my tennis game. I enjoy playing tennis and being allowed to be a member of the boys' tennis team gave me a chance to further this interest.

I felt that this was a very good program but I must say for myself, the boys are able to beat a girl in almost any sport. They have more speed and training in this. At least the girls tried and it did each of us some good.

I would like to say that I appreciate all the work involved in making this venture possible. It was a challenging and interesting experience that I'm glad I had an opportunity to share with the other girls and boys on the team.

Well, I know I had a good time on the boys' team and I learned a lot. But please make sure to ask the boys what they think of girls on the team. We are invading their world and we haven't asked for permission. I am afraid there is some feeling of resentment growing.

I would like to say that I enjoyed playing on the golf team very much and I am looking forward to it next year. I really liked the challenge it gave me and for the first time to really compete for something. I couldn't have asked for a better coach or team members. They were all just great to me and I had a lot of fun playing with all of them this year.

In my opinion I feel that your sex shouldn't matter in track. All of the members are out there for two purposes: (1) to assemble and maintain a cohesive winning team and (2) to strive for individual perfection. During track practice I often felt that the guys either forgot I was there or just didn't care. Everyone had their own workouts to get done and they did them. Often I felt that they worked harder to make sure that they kept ahead of me. I don't know if it's true but in my mind I hope that the guys were proud to have me on their team. Nevertheless, you can be sure that I was proud to be on theirs.

I think that being in competitive sports has enhanced my life greatly. I find that my physical condition has increased 100%.

It was difficult being on a boys' team, no matter what sport, and I like it. Everyone was great to me and even though I was nervous at first, by the end of the season I felt like "one of the guys".

I would like to say that this program of girls participating in boys' sports should continue until girls are recognized and can form their own sports on the same basis as the boys. Maybe some sports should stay coed like golf, tennis, etc., where it doesn't take a team so much as an individual. There's disapproval on this set-up mainly because some people are afraid it would hurt a boy's ego to lose to a girl. But how and what do these same people think about the fact that girls aren't given the same chance as boys to display their athletic abilities. I've not heard of high school girls competing in leagues and going on to sectionals, etc. Give girls a fair chance. We don't want trouble, just a fair chance. Thank you.

This season was truly an experience, and I am definitely going out next year if at all possible. I know that I had more losses than wins and that sometimes I would get extremely bitter and swear that I was going to quit. I just never did because I liked it a lot. You meet people who are shocked because you are playing, or people who are snobs and figure that you got your position by connections or cheating or something. But, all in all, I met some fine people who were truly interested in my development. This had made tennis worthwhile. In the beginning I thought that I would join tennis for the glory, but being a mediocre player, I just never did get too much of it. But with improvement and desire and practice, next year will be another thing.

Competing against guys has given me a goal to work toward in playing tennis. Competing like this had given me the competition I've wanted for a long time. This year, due to lack of experience in league competition, we did not do too well; but, I hope we are given the chance next year to really prove ourselves. Personally, I'd like to see wiped out the myth that sports are only for boys. I feel we gave the guys some competition and next year it will be harder for them to stay as number "one" in tennis.

I think it was a very good experience to play against and with boys. I feel this should be continued. I think we gave the boys a good fight considering it was the first time we had ever played them, and next year, if given the opportunity, we would really make those boys fight for what they want. I think next year we will be much better competition ourselves. This program was good because it showed that we girls have got some talent and can really put up a good fight. It showed that the boys aren't so superior than us.

Parents

1. What were your concerns about your daughter being a member of the boys' team?

- none	-54	- competition	- 1
- team acceptance	-15	- identity as girl	- 1
- ability	-6	- school work	- 1
- beating a boy	-6		

2. How has this experience changed or influenced your daughter in the following areas?

   a. school work: No change - 72 Decreased - 1 More interest - 1

   b. home life: No change - 73 More vocal - 1 Absent - 1

   c. socially: No change - 68 Increased - 12

   d. physically: No change - 42 Improvement - 2 Better endurance - 1 tired - 1

   e. emotionally: No change - 42 Improvement in outlook - 4 Changed - 2 More mature - 2 Increased - 1

3. Do you think the changes your daughter has experienced, if any, are desirable?

   Yes - 66 No change - 7 No - 5 No response - 2

4. Do you prefer that your daughter be a member of a girls' team or a boys' team?

   Girls' - 31 No choice - 27 Boys' - 16 Both - 6

5. Do you recommend that highly skilled girls be allowed to be on a boys' varsity team?

   Yes - 74 No - 6 Depends on sport - 3 No response - 2

6. Comments:

All in all, I believe having girls participate in tennis is a very good thing.

It is my belief that many girls, athletically qualified, must have felt prejudiced against in not being allowed to display their athletic abilities in varsity athletics and achieve the rewards therefrom as has been the case down through the years with boys. Certainly, in areas of non-contact sports this has been an unfair situation which has been remedied to some extent with this swim program. We, as parents, can only hope that this program will continue and perhaps be expanded to include other activities such as golf, tennis, bowling, skiing and so on.

We believe that this type of competition has better prepared _____ for college life. She used to fall apart at serious competition, but now accepts it fully and does better for it. She has also learned to take more responsibility and individual discipline. _____ seems to have been fully accepted by the boys on the teams, both ours and competitors. They respect her ability as a top shooter, regardless of her sex. _____ has also helped coach newer members and has aided them by giving constructive tips to improve their shooting.

Interschool competition for girls' teams should be maintained if at all possible in all sports. If a school is unable to have girl team interschool competition, a girl should then be given the opportunity to try out for the boys' teams in any sport not available in a girls' team.

Any sport that is not a contact sport, I can see no reason why a girl cannot compete equally. Also, it affords girls an opportunity to show their skills and to meet on equal terms in sports such as riflery, golf, tennis, etc.
Question: Why should girls <u>not</u> have the same opportunity as boys to compete in sports where the individual effort is involved?

This was a trial run at _____. Mr. _____ was willing to give the girls a chance, but to be truly effective a girl would have to be groomed to be a competitive swimmer with boys before the senior year. _____ has had a boys' team for 7 years. This is the first year girls could even swim competitively. If our daughter,_____, had not previously been a member of the _____ Swim Club, I'm sure she would have had no chance whatsoever. But she accepted gracefully to meet competition as long as she could practice swimming.

The situation was perhaps unique in the way it worked out so well. _____ has been swimming with many of these boys on teams around the city since she was small; we had discussed the possibility of applying for team membership with some of them, consequently, she was well received. I think the fact she was a diver and thus no competition to any of the swimmers may have made a difference; the boys think diving is kind of feminine anyway. The coach was splendid about the whole thing--didn't seem concerned about having her there and probably had a great deal to do with setting the tone. My only concern in opening the team up to female competitors is those girls who may be more interested in boys than in swimming. It was a <u>marvelous</u> opportunity for _____ she did well and learned a great deal, became much more consistent in her diving and improved week by week. We feel very fortunate, both my husband and I, that she was in the right place at the right time. We were very pleased with the experimental program and particularly with the way it was handled at _____. I do hope it will continue.

I feel it is just as important for girls to be physically fit, to learn good sportsmanship, and to be good competitors, as it is for boys. Generally, girls are not strong enough to compete with boys and for this reason I feel girls' teams should be organized.

My daughter "grew up" in a YMCA swim league. She was, and is, a good, competitive swimmer. In that league there were both boys' and girls' teams, They practiced together, but competed in separate meets. When we moved to this area, we were amazed that the school had a pool, but no team. Naturally, we were delighted when a boys' team began in 1968-69. We were even more delighted when our daughter was asked to join the team. It gave her a chance to maintain her skills. It provided inspiration for the boys. It increased interest in the meets, and attendance improved markedly. It is my opinion that where a girls' league for any sport does not exist, girls should be allowed and encouraged to try out for the school team (usually boys). I think the non-contact sports are best suited to this philosophy, but if a girl can help a hockey team, for example, more power to her!

This has been a fine and healthy experience. My hope would be for a continuance of this courageous and modern program.

I hope that they make this a regular school activity for the girls, that in a couple of years there will be more mixed teams and with more girls on them. It is really hard to tell in just one season. As her parents, we have developed an interest in school swim competition that we did not have before and get so much enjoyment out of it. She has really loved it and was serious about it.

I can see no reason why a girl with the ability to earn a position on a varsity should not be permitted to do so. This would be an excellent experience for later life, which we all know is changing more and more, to permit women to become actively engaged in important positions.

Possibly the standards could be raised closer to the boys' level. Also, the rewards. The competition could also be broadened to include a wider geographical area too, such as county and state. There even might be in the future athletic scholarships for the highly skilled girl.

Personally, I am all for this program of girls' participation in boys' sports. Girls' sport programs do not get the support from schools and parents that it needs to survive.

It probably would be preferable for girls to compete against girls in girls' teams. However, since there are not, at this time, enough girls with enough developed skill to form a good team, I prefer that the girls have the advantage of more practice time and better coaching that boys' teams seem to enjoy. I prefer the girls to have the stiffer competition that they get with boys until girls' teams can be organized that can offer adequate pool time ($1\frac{1}{2}$-2 hours per day) with good coaching. A woman coach without adequate competitive swimming background would be unable to organize a good team and this is demoralizing to a swimmer eager to compete. For the above stated reasons I would wish my daughters to continue to compete on the boys' teams.

I think that it is an excellent policy to allow girls to compete in all non-contact varsity sports, especially in small school systems. With a limited student body in a small town, it is questionable whether enough girls would join a swimming team to create meaningful competition. This would deprive the ambitious female athlete from developing her skills so that she would be better able to compete in college or other amateur athletics after graduation from high school. Both Mrs. _____ and myself feel very favorably towards our daughter's recent participation on the high school swimming team.

I'm not in favor of a mixed team so far as contact sports are concerned, wrestling, football, soccer, etc. However, if a female proves to be above the talents of a male in bowling, certain forms of track, tennis, and non-contact sports, I find no reason not to allow them to compete at the highest level they can attain.

We are very pleased that _____ was a member of the team. We felt this opportunity and the exercise was very good for her. We were especially pleased with the conduct of the members of the team.

_____ was quite honored to be accepted on the boys' team. She didn't think she would be, due to it being all boys. For myself, I didn't see anything wrong. She enjoys bowling and knows all her teammates, and I was just as happy as she was when she was accepted.

I think the schedule of practice was disrupting to parents' home life and social life. Very tied down to chauffeuring from practice daily, change in meal time, not free to go anywhere, but have to expect these limitations when you have children. I think our daughter enjoyed and thrived on the challenge.

There were very few concerns about _____ being on a boys' team because of her several years experience on a co-ed swim team. Her homework was, I think, affected because of the new experience and the time involved. This, of course, is not desirable but adjusted itself with time. Because of better chance to swim in competition which is the prime reason for being on a team. If a girl is highly interested and skilled in a sport, she should be able to express and utilize that skill. However, she should be given a chance to compete. A prefixed, regular schedule for practice is essential. It was a growth experience socially, physically, emotionally. Also, the fact must not be overlooked that the boys profitted by the co-ed situation. The challenge was exhilarating and the espirit de corps was enhanced.

There are very few varsity girls' teams. Thus, there is no opportunity for the skilled girl to develop her natural skills under good coaching except by being a member of a boys' team. We enthusiastically endorse skilled girls being permitted on boys' varsity teams in non-contact sports such as skiing, swimming, tennis and track. However, they should not participate in contact sports such as football or basketball. By permitting girls to receive good coaching on mixed teams, not only will the girls improve, but the outstanding girls of Olympic caliber can be recognized and encouraged.

It is high time that the business of giving girls the "leftovers" was ended when it comes to sports, and it's about time for the women physical education teachers to have as much, or equal, influence as the men physical education teachers use.

I think it is about time they allowed girls to compete in non-contact sports. It has been one sided for too long. Our only complaint this year was at the _____ county meet. At this time the judges definitely took off because she was a girl. They invoked a rule which was never mentioned prior to this time and from a laymans point of view, few scored her much harder than the boys she was competing against. I feel if a girl is willing to compete on an equal level with the boys, the judges should do likewise. If something like this is to be done, the officials should understand this is with everyones approval and all rules should be clearly stated to the girls prior to competition.

We have been in favor of _____'s participation in bowling and tennis, and are proud she was selected. Sports are great for all students, socially and physically, if it doesn't interfere with school work.

I feel this has been the most happy school year of her life. She's an only child,came to _____ two years ago--had very few friends, used to grownups, and was afraid of her becoming introverted. The boys (I was very surprised) were extremely nice to her and she felt very welcome on the team. I do think they all made her feel sort of special. I'm sure the coaches, especially Mr. _____, was the deciding factor here. He made her work as hard as the boys and she has become very interested in physical education, and her father and I both feel this might become her career and we are very pleased. Her main interest in life is sports, and might send her to _____ Diving school, as swimming is her forte. I wish the swimming team continued from September to June. So far we have no generation gap, hostilities, etc. The change from childhood to being a teenager is just remarkable. I'm very grateful and she may stay on the team as long as she keeps her marks up. We were planning to send her to a Catholic girls school starting next year, but swimming is her whole life and has actually begged to stay in _____ _____ _____ so she can stay on this swimming team. We are still undecided, but as long as she can swim, I'm sure she'll get our consent to stay in _____.

I would like to say we have been proud and pleased with _____'s experience on the boys' diving team. She has had three brothers so learned how to get along with boys a long time ago. Consequently, the boys on the team have treated her with respect as well as a good share of teasing, and this is a healthy attitude. _____ has learned the meaning of good sportsmanship and not giving up when the training gets tough.

One or two girls on a varsity squad of boys creates problems. It acts as a damper of boyish enthusiasm. I am sure the group requires considerable time to adjust to the presence of each other on bus rides to other schools. My daughter enjoys competition in tennis and it was only the boys' squad who could offer any.

Schools should give girls an opportunity to be in sports the same as boys. Girls need this as much as boys.

I can't understand why the entire sports program in _____ is based entirely for the boys. I've sent one son and five daughters to _____, and compared to what the son was offered in the sports program, my daughters have received nothing. This seems completely unfair to me as in a very short time after leaving high school the emphasis today is put on equality in college and in the business world.

In order to answer questions 5 and 6 I think it would depend on each individual. I would prefer that my daughter be on a girls' team but if an individual girl were an exception, she should qualify for a varsity team be it boys or girls. However, I feel that a good boy will always be better than a good girl because as far as athletics are concerned, I believe a boy will take more interest in a sport and will compete in sports longer than a girl. A good boy will generally not like to be defeated by a girl. Then again, a matter of pride would be involved, too. But competition is a good thing anytime whether it be just boys or mixed.

This has enabled her to find players to meet with for a game outside of team practice times, has taught her to improve her skills. Combined with girls gym activities is creating an interest in physical education as a career choice.

Our daughter from competition in earlier tennis programs, finds that most boys play the game more competitive. In her first year on the tennis team she has not won too often, but she has been getting tough competition and has learned a lot.

We are glad you are interested enough to even give us a chance to comment!

I was very pleased that she had the opportunity to participate in boys' track team. The boys were very helpful and accepted her as a team member.

While enjoying the participation and gaining from it, there were the frustrations of never winning, etc. I feel there should be a girls' program on the interscholastic level in most sports, operated similar to the boys' program. Regular practice and meets with experienced coaches in the sport, not some girls physical education instructor whose knowledge may be limited to a few gym classes. The mid-west and west does exceptional things in girls' basketball. The large cities CAAU programs do outstanding work in track for girls. Why should New York State be so far behind in this respect.

I cannot see any adverse effect on either boys or girls. The most difficult situations I predict will be on the coaching side and the extra trouble of chaperons and dressing space for girls.

I felt she would not get the opportunity to play against other school teams as the boys were always given the first choices which proved to be so.

I think girls should be encouraged to participate in sports as well as boys. We talk of physical fitness and put law and emotional restrictions on girls competing. Why?

I strongly believe that more popular sports such as tennis or basketball should have girls' teams. In such cases where there wouldn't be enough girls to make up a team such as golf, then girls should be allowed to play on the boys' team.

I see no reason why girls may not be allowed to participate in boys' sports if they meet requirements. However, I believe girls could, in most instances find more even competition on girls' teams. It is my opinion that boys are more conditioned athletes, and therefore, girls are apt to find it impossible to achieve the same degree of success that they could have by competing against girls.

The experience has been favorable.

In later life, if the present trend continues, men and women will be competing in more areas than ever before. To have this competitive experience in other than the typical classroom situation, I believe is beneficial to both boys and girls.

I do not believe any harm was done by her playing tennis with the boys. She may have learned a little about being humble by playing with someone better than she.

She is proud of her accomplishment in being able to successfully compete against boys.

I think that the influence on the girl depends greatly on the coach. My daughter was fortunate to have an understanding gentlemen who conducted himself as such and expected the boys to do the same, yet at the same time he promoted an atmosphere of "this is a natural-fun situation".

I think that girls should continue to be allowed to play in any non-contact sport where the school has a boys' team, but no girls' team. I was present at the start and finish of several of the matches; everything was wonderful, there was not even any of the little jokes and comments I expected there would be. They just shook hands and went at it to see who could win over the others. If every high school student in New York could be on some sport team, have a practice or team event every evening, and spend the rest of their free time keeping their marks up so they could stay on the team, there might not be some of the problems we have in our schools today. If you will do all you can to keep the program going, I'll do all I can to furnish the girls.

In this specific case there were no problems. My daughter was accepted as a capable member of the team. She enjoyed the competition and was at all times a person concerned for the success of the entire team. Her participation as a successful member of the team has to a measure increased girl interest in tennis in younger girls. It has given them a positive goal to work for.

Considering the nineteenth amendment was a century late (at least), opening competitive varsity sports for girls who are willing and able is a belated, if not welcomed innovation.

Very satisfied with my daughter's performance. I also thought the whole project was handled very well by the coaches.

One thing I would resent as a girl to be accepted as part of a team and then to call that team a boys' team. Tennis is a sport where skill and coordination are prerequisites and boys at that age do not possess any superiority over girls.

I hope it will continue.

Perhaps it was a bit strained to be one of the first girls to be on the varsity team, but I feel that if the girls are qualified they should be allowed to play. Most of the young men accepted them very graciously and perhaps were more gentlemanly about the sport. Some of the schools in the league were not quite so nice to their female players or their guests, but they seemed to work it out. Our daughter enjoys tennis and plays quite well, and we are happy that she is involved in these games rather than having nothing to do. She is a very active girl in school as well and usually managed to juggle her schedule without too many problems. Over all we have been very satisfied with her activity with the varsity tennis team.

A sport should challenge individuals just as school subjects and individuals should have opportunity to achieve a higher level of competence which can only be accomplished by participation with players of the same or better abilities. This is not unlike placing students in classes according to their indicated level of intelligence and teaching them accordingly as to speed and depth of subject material.

It didn't matter if she was participating on a girls' or boys' team. I feel a girl should be able to take part in any activity which she is capable.

Tennis has been played and enjoyed by girls for years and I see no reason why they should not also have tennis teams to compete against other girls or boys.

It is too bad when girls show an interest in sports and are able to compete with boys they aren't given any recognition. I feel my daughter has proven she is more of a sport than most of the boys because she is in the sports that only boys have excelled in only because it was made available to just them.

Was very proud to have her be the first girl to win a letter on a varsity team.

I have noticed no changes except possibly in any boys my daughter may have beaten in competition. This is her decision and her complete responsibility as far as I am concerned.

I feel if the girl qualifies and is able to participate, she should be allowed to. It has been a good experience for my daughter as she loves tennis and would not otherwise have been able to be on a school team. As a mother, I was very happy for her that she made the team and I know she enjoyed the experience of playing in this year's competition.

Physicians

1. Do you believe this experiment was in any way harmful to the girl physically and/or emotionally? No - 32 Yes - 1 (Reason not cited)

2. Do you see any reason why a girl should not compete with boys in non-contact sports? No - 32 Yes - 1 (Reason not cited)

3. Would you favor:

   a. acceptance as legal policy? - 16
   b. discontinuing the practice? - 1
   c. continuing as an experiment? - 16

4. Comments:

I think girls competing with girls from other schools should work out better. For example -- tennis, golf, track -- non contact sports. Boys are generally better.

So long as a responsible and mature person in charge of the athletic program weighs each case, there should be no problem.

No, with proper supervision I think it is fine for a girl to compete with boys in non-contact sports. When this is done I think it would be best if a woman physical education teacher would work with the girls at practice and at competition.

Report of the Evaluation Committee

In July 1970, an ad hoc committee was convened under the chairmanship of David Irvine, Chief of the Education Department's Bureau of School Programs Evaluation, to assess the data gathered in the experiment and to make recommendations to the Department. Its report said:

The survey results show no basic problem. There was no evidence of physical, psychological, or social harm to the girl participants or her male teammates resulting from the project. The types of problems cited dealt with administrative arrangements and supervision.

The group was unanimous in its feeling that the restrictions on the participation of girls on boys' interschool athletic teams in the non-contact sports should be removed. Discussion centered around the most feasible means of implementing this change. The consensus of the group can be summarized in the following statements:

1. Girls should be permitted to participate on boys' interschool athletic teams in the non-contact sports. It is recommended that the State Education Department take steps to implement this change, asking that the regulations restricting this participation be waived until such time as the regulations can be changed.

2. It is recommended that the State Education Department establish such guidelines as are necessary for efficient operation of local athletic programs under the new provisions.

3. It is recommended that the State Education Department review the operation of local athletic teams who are operating under the new conditions during the 1970-71 school year in order to verify this year's experience and to revise the guidelines as necessary.

4. These recommendations and changes to be implemented by the State Education Department should in no way diminish, or be substituted for, girls' interschool athletic teams or intramural teams. The group felt strongly that there is a need for girls' interschool athletic teams.

5. Local responsibility for adequately supervising all educational activities should extend to interschool teams on which girls are participating.

Action Taken

The recommendations were studied by the Education Department and reactions were solicited from various groups and individuals. After due deliberation, the recommendations were accepted and an amendment to the Regulations of the Commissioner of Education was prepared for presentation to the Board of Regents.

On March 16, 1971, the Regents approved the amendment, effective immediately. It reads as follows:

> Girls may participate on the same team with boys in interscholastic athletic competition in the sports of archery, badminton, bowling, cross country, fencing, golf, gymnastics, riflery, rowing (but only as coxswain), shuffleboard, skiing, swimming and diving, table tennis, tennis, and track and field, provided the school attended by a girl wishing to participate in any such sport does not maintain a girls' team in that sport. In exceptional cases, the principal or the chief executive officer of a school may permit a girl or girls to participate on a boys' team in a designated sport or sports, notwithstanding the fact that the school maintains a girls' team in that sport or sports.*

Thus, it is now legal for girls to participate on boys' interschool athletic teams in designated noncontact sports as specified above.

Inquiries concerning the experiment should be directed to George H. Grover, Director, Division of Health, Physical Education and Recreation, State Education Department, Albany, New York 12224.

*Regulations of the Commissioner of Education, Section 135.4 (e), (4) adopted March 26, 1971. Cross country was added to the list by action of the Board of Regents, December 17, 1971.

Appendix A

THE UNIVERSITY OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK
THE STATE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT
ALBANY, NEW YORK 12224

BERNARD F. HAAKE
ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR
INSTRUCTIONAL SERVICES
(GENERAL EDUCATION)

DIVISION OF HEALTH, PHYSICAL EDUCATION
AND RECREATION
GEORGE H. GROVER, DIRECTOR

ASSOCIATE IN HEALTH, PHYSICAL EDUCATION
AND RECREATION
GERALD J. HASE

February 21, 1969

To: Bernard Haake

From: George Grover

Subject: Participation of Girls on Boys' Interschool Athletic Teams

Background

The rapidly increasing opportunities afforded girls interested in athletic competition in recent years is significant of changing societal mores. Mass media's coverage of national and international athletic competition involving girls and women has undoubtedly played a vital role in our present thinking.

Vastly improved school and college physical education programs with more emphasis on individual and dual activities coupled with increased opportunities for girls to pursue numerous and varied athletic activities through other public and private means have greatly enhanced the athletic abilities of girls.

In schools, avenues for girls to follow their individual interest and skill levels in athletics are provided through intramural, extramural and interschool activities. If schools offer all of these opportunities, the athletic needs of most, if not all, girls will be met. However, there may always be the very exceptional, highly skilled girl who cannot find the challenge or equality of competition from girl competitors.

Over the years a few requests have been made to the Education Department to allow girls to compete on boys' teams. Such requests have been denied on the basis of existing Regulations of the Commissioner of Education and consensus of leaders in physical education in the State and nation that such competition was not desirable.

Section 158, 5., c. of the Regulations of the Commissioner of Education specifies that "...inter-high-school athletic activities for boys be limited to competition between high school teams composed of boys..." Therefore, it has been held that girls cannot compete on boys' teams.

The long-standing position of the Division of Girls' and Women's Sports of the American Association for Health, Physical Education and Recreation, as well as other organizations and women and men leaders in physical education in the State and nationally, is that interschool athletic competition between girls and boys is undesirable for physical, emotional and social reasons.

Issue at Hand

A recent incident in swimming and a specific request to permit a highly-skilled girl to participate on a high school boys' tennis team during the 1969 Spring season have again focused attention on this matter.

The traditional position against girls participating on boys' teams has been challenged for validity and on the basis of sex discrimination.

Evidence

Professional literature provides little evidence that can be applied to the issue at hand.

In a limited number of experiences that have come to our attention wherein a girl competed on a boys' team (primarily at the college level), the only negative feature reported is that it is not yet socially acceptable for a girl to defeat a boy in athletic competition. In such cases it is reported that some opponents cancelled contests if a girl were listed as a member of the team, or the boys refused to compete against the girls, or in extreme cases, boys left the team.

Discussions with the following persons have elicited a unanimous expression that there are no medical reasons to prohibit girls from competing on boys' athletic teams in such non-contact activities as tennis, golf, swimming, bowling and riflery: Dr. Leo Feichtner, Chief, Bureau of Health Services, Education Department; Dr. Fred Hein, Chief, Bureau of Health Education, American Medical Association; Dr. Thomas E. Shaffer, Chairman, Committee on Medical Aspects of Sports, A.M.A.; Dr. Ralph S. Emerson, Chairman, Committee on Medical Aspects of Sports, New York State Medical Society.

Conclusion

It is acknowledged that:

1. There are exceptionally talented girls participating in various athletic activities and this number will increase.

2. It is desirable that competition be provided at comparable levels of athletic ability.

3. For the majority of highly skilled girls, participation on girls' teams will meet their needs.

4. Requests have been received to allow exceptional girls to participate on boys' athletic teams and more are anticipated.

5. Regulations of the Commissioner of Education as presently constituted are interpreted as prohibiting participation of girls on boys' teams.

6. There is need to secure valid evidence to determine a position on this matter.

Proposal

It is proposed that an experimental project be approved and conducted by the State Education Department to ascertain the effects of girls participating on boys' athletic teams in selected activities. Such experiment should include the following:

1. It should start with the 1969 Spring sports season and continue through the 1969-70 school year.

2. The Department would waive the Regulations for those schools who request permission to participate in the experiment; such waiver to be effective only for the duration of the experiment.

3. The Department would issue a general letter to all chief school officers announcing the project, listing the conditions, and outlining the procedures to be followed.

4. Conditions for approval of experimental schools shall include:

   a. Approval by the local board of education for girls to participate on boys' interschool athletic teams and to request permission to participate in the experimental project.

   b. Agreement by the school officials to furnish data as deemed necessary to evaluate the experiment.

   c. Provision of appropriate girls' dressing and showering facilities both at home and away.

   d. Medical examination prior to start of practice and approval of school physician for girls to participate; a possible reexamination at the conclusion of the season.

   e. Assignment of a woman faculty member (or appropriate person) to attend all practice sessions, to supervise the girls' dressing and showering rooms, and to accompany the team on all trips.

5. Requests for approval will be considered for interschool athletic activities that are not deemed to involve physical contact with participants; such decisions shall rest with the Education Department.

6. The Education Department will make a decision shortly after the conclusion of the experiment relative to the continuance of girls participating on boys' teams and shall take appropriate action thereto.

It is interesting to note that in response to my question: "What is your feeling about the desirability of conducting an experimental program of about a year's duration to ascertain the effects of girls participating on boys' interschool athletic teams in selected activities"? both Dr. Hein and Dr. Shaffer

(A.M.A.) expressed an affirmative reply and a strong interest in being kept abreast of the latest information on the experiment and the results.

In accordance with our conversation on this date, it is understood that approval has been granted by the Assistant Commissioner for Instructional Services (General Education) and the Associate Commissioner for Elementary, Secondary and Continuing Education for initiation of this experimental project as herein outlined.

Appendix B

THE UNIVERSITY OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK
THE STATE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT
ALBANY, NEW YORK 12224

WALTER CREWSON
ASSOCIATE COMMISSIONER FOR
ELEMENTARY, SECONDARY,
AND CONTINUING EDUCATION

February 26, 1969

To: City, Village and District Superintendents
Supervising Principals
Diocesan Superintendents
High School Principals
Public, Private and Parochial High School Principals
Junior High School Principals
Directors of Health, Physical Education and Recreation

Subject: Experimental Project--Participation of Girls on Boys' Interschool Athletic Teams

This is to inform you that the State Education Department has authorized and will conduct an experimental project to ascertain the effects of girls participating on boys' inter-high-school athletic teams in selected non-contact activities. Duration of the project will be from March 1, 1969 through June, 1970.

Attached is pertinent information concerning the project including background, conditions of the experiment and procedures to be followed.

Please note that:

--The sole purpose of this project is to obtain data necessary to establish a valid position concerning whether or not girls should be permitted to participate on boys' interschool athletic teams.

--This project is neither an endorsement nor a promotion by the Education Department of such competition.

--Only those high schools that are approved by the Education Department for the experiment will be authorized to permit girls to compete on boys' teams.

Questions concerning this project should be directed to Dr. George H. Grover, Director, Division of Health, Physical Education and Recreation, State Education Department.

Sincerely

Walter Crewson

Walter Crewson

An Experimental Project to Ascertain the Effects of Girls Participating on Boys' Inter-High-School Athletic Teams in Selected Activities

The Project

The State Education Department has authorized and will conduct an experimental project to ascertain the effects of girls participating on boys' inter-high-school athletic teams in selected activities. The project will extend from the start of the 1969 Spring sports season on March 1 to the end of the 1970 Spring sports season. Only those schools that apply and are approved by the Education Department for participation in the project will be authorized to permit girls to become members of boys' interschool athletic teams.

The data gathered in this project will be used to determine whether or not such competition is desirable and, therefore, should or should not be permitted in the future.

Background

The rapidly increasing opportunities afforded girls interested in athletic competition in recent years is significant of changing mores. Mass media's coverage of national and international athletic competition involving girls and women has undoubtedly played a vital role in our present thinking.

Vastly improved school and college physical education programs coupled with increased opportunities for girls to pursue various athletic activities through other public and private means have greatly enhanced the athletic abilities of girls.

In schools, girls may follow their individual interests and skill levels through competition in intramural, extramural and interschool activities. Where schools offer all of these opportunities, the athletic needs of most, if not all, girls will be met. However, there may always be the very exceptional, highly talented girl who cannot find the challenge or equality of competition from other girls.

In recent years a few requests have been made to the Education Department to allow girls to compete on boys' teams. Such requests have been denied on the basis of existing Regulations of the Commissioner of Education and the consensus of leaders in physical education in the State and nation that such competition was not desirable.

This traditional position has been challenged for validity and on the basis of sex discrimination.

Evidence

Professional literature provides little evidence that can be applied to the issue.

In a limited number of experiences that have come to our attention wherein girls competed on boys' teams, the only negative feature reported is that it is not yet socially acceptable for a girl to defeat a boy in athletic competition.

Discussions with medical personnel have elicited a unanimous expression that there are no medical reason to prohibit girls from competing on boys' team in such non-contact activities as tennis, golf, swimming, bowling and riflery.

Thus there is great need to secure valid evidence to assist the Education Department in determining a position on this matter.

Conditions of the Experiment

1. The experimental project will extend from March 1, 1969 through June 30, 1970.

2. Any high school, public or private, is eligible to participate in the project upon application and approval as hereinafter indicated. Only such schools will be authorized to permit girls to compete on boys' athletic teams for the duration of the project.

3. The Education Department will waive Regulations of the Commissioner of Education for the approved schools in the project for the duration of the project.

4. The local board of education must authorize: (a) the participation of girls on boys' teams in its high school(s), and (b) the application for approval to participate in the project.

5. The chief school officer will be required to:

   a. Secure and transmit data as may be deemed necessary by the Education Department to evaluate the project.

   b. Provide appropriate dressing, showering and lavatory facilities for girls at the home school and to assure that similar facilities are available at the opponent's school.

   c. Provide a medical examination for the girls prior to the start of practice sessions and at the conclusion of the season; approval of the school physician will also be necessary.

   d. Assign a woman faculty member (or other approved woman member of the school staff) to attend practice sessions; supervise the dressing, showering and lavatory facilities; and accompany the team on all trips.

6. Unless otherwise stated, Regulations of the Commissioner of Education governing interschool athletic activities for boys shall also apply to girls participating on boys' teams.

7. Requests for approval will be considered for interschool athletic activities that are not deemed to involve physical contact among the participants; such decisions will rest with the Education Department.

8. In the event a school is approved for the project and subsequently fails to adhere to the conditions of the experiment, such action will be deemed appropriate cause for immediate revocation of the approval to participate in the project.

Procedure for Applications

1. A letter of application should be submitted by the chief school officer to Dr. Grover as indicated below. Such letter should include the following:

a. Name of activity or activities in which girls will participate.

b. Names, ages, and grades in school for each girl.

c. Name of the coach.

d. Interschool schedule for each activity including dates, times and places for contests.

e. Expression of willingness to abide by all conditions of the experiment as set forth herein.

f. Authorization by Board for application to participate in the project.

2. Upon review, the Education Department will inform the applicant of its decision in writing.

2/26/69

Appendix C

The University of the State of New York
THE STATE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

To: George Grover Date: July 27, 1970

From: David Irvine David Irvine

Subject: Report of meeting to review results of experimental project dealing with participation of girls on boys' interschool athletic teams.

RECEIVED
AUG 3 1970
DIVISION OF HEALTH
PHYSICAL EDUCATION
AND RECREATION

Present:

J. K. Hafner, representing NYSPHSAA

Robert C. Jackson, representing NYSAHPER

Jan Abelseth, student at Voorheesville High School

Rick Ellis, student at Voorheesville High School

George A. Gould, principal, Scarsdale High School

George H. Grover, Director of Health and Physical Education, State Education Department

Mae Timer, formerly Assistant in the Division of Health and Physical Education, now consultant in the Center for Planning and Innovation

David J. Irvine, Chief, Bureau of School Programs Evaluation, State Education Department

In addition, a representative of Catholic schools and a public school superintendent were invited but did not attend.

The group surveyed the results of questionnaires administered during the experimental project to investigate participation of girls on boys' interschool athletic teams. Surveyed were:

Girl participants, their parents, medical doctors, principals of participating schools, athletic directors of participating schools, coaches of participating schools, women supervisors assigned to teams on which girls were participating, women physical educators, male team mates of participants, visiting coaches whose teams had competed against teams with participating girls, and visiting team members.

The survey results show no basic problem. There was no evidence of physical, psychological, or social harm to the girl participants or her male team mates resulting from the project. The types of problems cited dealt with administrative arrangements and supervision.

The group was unanimous in its feeling that the restrictions on the participation of girls on boys' interschool athletic teams in the noncontact sports should be removed. Discussion centered around the most feasible means of implementing this change. The consensus of the group can be summarized in the following statements:

1. Girls should be permitted to participate on boys' interschool athletic teams in the noncontact sports. It is recommended that the State Education Department take steps to implement this change, asking that the regulations restricting this participation be waived until such time as the regulations can be changed.

2. It is recommended that the State Education Department establish such guidelines as are necessary for efficient operation of local athletic programs under the new provisions.

3. It is recommended that the State Education Department review the operation of local athletic teams who are operating under the new conditions during the 1970-71 school year in order to verify this year's experience and to revise the guidelines as necessary.

4. These recommendations and changes to be implemented by the State Education Department should in no way diminish, or be substituted for, girls' interschool athletic teams or intramural teams. The group felt strongly that there is a need for girls' interschool athletic teams.

5. Local responsibility for adequately supervising all educational activities should extend to interschool teams on which girls are participating

DJI:rc
cc: Bernard F. Haake
J.K. Hafner
Robert C. Jackson
George A. Gould
Jan Abelseth
Rick Ellis
Mae Timer

Appendix D

THE UNIVERSITY OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK
THE STATE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT
ALBANY, NEW YORK 12224

August 31, 1970

TO: City, Village and District Superintendents
Diocesan Superintendents
Supervising Principals
Public, Private and Parochial High School Principals
Directors of Health, Physical Education and Recreation

SUBJECT: Participation of Girls on Boys' Inter-High-School Athletic Teams

The experimental project announced by Walter Crewson in his memorandum of February 26, 1969, wherein talented girls were permitted to compete on boys' inter-high-school athletic teams in selected non-contact sports, terminated on June 30, 1970. The data collected have been summarized and used by an ad hoc committee in evaluating the results of the experiment. Recommendations of this committee are being studied by the Education Department. These recommendations will soon be reviewed by the Superintendents' Advisory Committee on Athletics, as well as by others who are affected by any decision on this matter. A final position statement will be forthcoming from the Education Department within a reasonable time.

In the interim, the policy of allowing girls to participate on boys' inter-high-school teams will be continued on the same experimental basis. Conditions of play, and procedures to be followed, remain the same as indicated in the memorandum of February 26, 1969, except that responsibility for determining the type and amount of supervision necessary for the girls shall rest with local school officials. In other words, no woman supervisor needs to be assigned as stipulated in the conditions of the experiment. Please note that only those high schools that apply during the 1970-71 school year, and are approved by the Education Department, will be authorized to permit girls to compete on boys' teams during 1970-71.

If you desire a copy of the 1969 memorandum or have questions concerning this project, please direct your inquiries to George H. Grover, Director, Division of Health, Physical Education and Recreation, State Education Department, Albany, New York 12224.

Sincerely,

Philip B. Langworthy
Acting Deputy Commissioner
for Elementary, Secondary
and Continuing Education

Appendix E

THE UNIVERSITY OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK
THE STATE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT
ALBANY, NEW YORK 12224

BERNARD F. HAAKE
ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR
INSTRUCTIONAL SERVICES
(GENERAL EDUCATION)

DIVISION OF HEALTH, PHYSICAL EDUCATION
AND RECREATION
GEORGE H. GROVER, DIRECTOR

ASSOCIATE IN HEALTH, PHYSICAL EDUCATION
AND RECREATION
GERALD J. HASE

May 1971

To: City, Village and District Superintendents of Schools
Supervising Principals
Diocesan Superintendents
Public, Private and Parochial High School Principals
Directors of Health, Physical Education and Recreation

Subject: Amendments to The Regulations of the Commissioner of Education

At its meetings in March and April, the Board of Regents approved amendments to the Regulations of the Commissioner of Education which:

1) Allow girls to participate on boys' interschool athletic teams in selected non-contact sports.

2) Limit the duration of interschool athletic competition to eight consecutive semesters except in hardship cases.

3) Permit nine games of football within a Section of the State as defined by the Public High School Athletic Association, and New York City upon an affirmative vote of the chief school officers in all public and non-public schools in such Sections and New York City.

4) Require the use of school swimming pools at all times to be under the personal supervision of a qualified lifeguard.

Enclosed is a copy of these amendments as adopted by the Regents. They are effective immediately. The following should be noted:

1) The experiment wherein girls participated on boys' teams is terminated; school officials are no longer required to obtain Department approval for such participation.

2) The Regents and Counsel for the Education Department have indicated the amendments provide that:

   (a) Local school authorities, in each instance, must decide whether girls may try out for a boys' team in any of the

designated sports even if there is no girls' team in that sport. The girl, additionally, must earn her position on the team or squad as would any boy.

(b) If there is a girls' team in any of the designated sports, schools have discretionary authority in the matter of exceptionally talented girls being permitted to participate on boys' teams in those sports.

(c) The revisions do not permit boys to participate on girls' teams.

3) The amendments clarified a misconception that interschool athletics for girls are not permitted by the Commissioner's Regulations by repealing paragraph (4) in the "Basic Code for inter-high school athletic activities for pupils in grades 9 through 12." The Education Department not only approves girls' teams and girls' interscholastic competition, but encourages such participation by girls in accordance with guidelines for extraclass activities.

4) By reincorporating the word, "consecutive," in the so-called eight semester rule," the Department has taken action to eliminate the practice of "red shirting", i.e., students taking more than four years to complete high school being held out of competition for a sports season or two and then later permitted to participate. The amendment takes into consideration hardship cases due to accident, illness and similar circumstances.

5) The American Red Cross Water Safety Instructor's rating is an acceptable certification since it is an advanced ranking above senior life saving.

6) The Statewide maximum of eight football games a season is retained for all schools except for those in the individual Sections and New York City that, upon an affirmative vote of the majority of chief school officers in both public and non-public schools in those Sections and New York City, decide to raise the maximum to nine. Such maximum remains in effect until rescinded by another vote.

With regard to number six above, no standard plan for conducting the poll has been established. It is felt that, at least for the time being, this is best left to the individual Sections and New York City. For your consideration, however, it is suggested that a committee of three or four persons representing public and private schools be selected to (1) develop such a plan for the Section or New York City, (2) conduct the poll if and when so requested, and (3) notify this Division of the results. If this suggestion is accepted, it will be appreciated if the names and addresses of the committee members are sent to me.

Guidelines and other recommendations are being prepared for these changes wherever necessary. They will be sent to you at the earliest possible time. In the meanwhile, if you have any questions which need to be answered immediately, please let me know by mail or phone. (518-474-5832)

Sincerely yours,

George H. Grover

George H. Grover
Director, Division of Health,
Physical Education and Recreation

Bernard Haake

Bernard F. Haake
Assistant Commissioner for
Instructional Services
(General Education)

THE UNIVERSITY OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK
The State Education Department
Division of Health, Physical Education and Recreation
Albany, New York 12224

Amendment to Regulations of the Commissioner of Education
Pursuant to Section 207 of the Education Law
Approved by the Board of Regents, March, 1971
Effective Immediately

Subdivision (e) of Section 135.4 of the Regulations of the Commissioner of Education is amended as follows:

1. Subparagraph (x) of paragraph (1) thereof is amended to read as follows:

(x) to permit no athletic team to represent a school except in conformance with [the] these regulations;

2. Subparagraph (xvi) of paragraph (1) thereof is amended to read as follows:

(xvi) to provide instruction and practice for [boys] pupils in grades 7 through 9 in extraclass or laboratory periods which are basically intramural activities supplemented by extramural events or other approved interschool competition;

3. Subparagraph (xvii) of paragraph (1) thereof is amended to read as follows:

(xvii) to provide athletic training and practice throughout each sports season for [boys] pupils in grades 10 through 12 through intramural activities, extramural events or other approved interschool competition;

4. Subparagraph (xix) of paragraph (1) is hereby REPEALED.

5. Paragraph (2) thereof is amended to read as follows:

(2) Basic code for interschool athletic activities for [boys] pupils in junior high school grades 7, 8 and 9. Trustees and boards of education may provide for scheduled interschool competition for [boys] pupils in grades 7, 8 and 9. Such competitions shall be conducted in accordance with the following basic code:

(i) Participation. Seventh and eighth grade teams may participate only with teams of like grade groups, with the following exceptions:

(a) In junior high school competition may include grades 7 through 9.

(b) In six-year high schools competition may include grades 7 through 9.

(c) In four-year high schools the ninth grade boys pupils may participate in junior high school competitions.

6. Paragraph (3) thereof is amended to read as follows:

(3) Basic code for inter-high school athletic activities for [boys] pupils in grades 9 through 12. It shall be the duty of trustees and boards of education to require that inter-high school athletic activities for [boys] pupils be limited to competition between high school teams, composed of [boys] pupils in grades 9 to 12 inclusive, except that a pupil who attains the age of 15 years while enrolled in a grade below the ninth grade may take part in inter-high school sports, provided [he meets] all other requirements are met. Such activities shall be conducted in accordance with the following basic code:

(b) A [boy] pupil shall be eligible for only four years of interschool competition in any one sport.

(c) A [boy] pupil shall be eligible for interschool competition only between his 14th and 19th birthdays. A pupil who attains the age of 19 years on or after September 1 may continue to participate during that school year in all sports.

(ii) Registration. A [boy] pupil is eligible for interschool competition only when he is a bona fide student, enrolled during the first 15 school days of the semester, registered in three courses and physical education, and has been in regular attendance 80 per cent of the school time, bona fide absence caused by personal illness excepted.

(iv) (e) Outdoor track and field. A [boy] pupil shall have at least 15 practice sessions before the first interschool meet. A [boy] pupil shall be permitted in any one meet to compete only in two events and if one of these shall be a track event of a distance greater than 220 yards the second event selected must be a field event, or in meets where no heats are necessary, a [boy] pupil may compete in any two events of a distance not greater than 220 yards permitted in the above and a relay.

(f) . . . . .

7. Paragraph (4) thereof is hereby REPEALED.

8. A new paragraph (4) is added thereto to read as follows:

(4) Girls may participate on the same team with boys in interscholastic competition in the sports of archery, badminton, bowling, fencing, golf, gymnastics, riflery, rowing (but only as coxswain), shuffleboard, skiing, swimming and diving, table tennis, tennis, and track and field, provided the school attended by a girl wishing to participate in any such sport does not maintain a girls' team in that sport. In exceptional cases, the principal or the chief executive officer of a school may permit a girl or girls to participate on a boys' team in a designated sport or sports, notwithstanding the fact that the school maintains a girls' team in that sport or sports.

Subdivision (e) of Section 135.4 of the Regulations of the Commissioner of Education is amended as follows:

(i) Duration of competition. (a) A boy shall be eligible for inter-high school athletic competition only during eight consecutive semesters after his entry in the ninth grade, and prior to graduation [.] , unless sufficient evidence is presented by the chief school officer to the league or section to show that the pupil's failure to enter competition during one or more semesters was caused by illness, accident, or other such circumstances deemed acceptable to the league or section.

Appendix F

THE UNIVERSITY OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK
THE STATE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT
ALBANY, NEW YORK 12224

BERNARD F. HAAKE
ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR
INSTRUCTIONAL SERVICES
(GENERAL EDUCATION)

DIVISION OF HEALTH, PHYSICAL EDUCATION
AND RECREATION
GEORGE H. GROVER, DIRECTOR

ASSOCIATE IN HEALTH, PHYSICAL EDUCATION
AND RECREATION
GERALD J. HASE

January 1972

To: City, Village and District Superintendents of Schools
Supervising Principals
Diocesan Superintendents
Public, Private and Parochial High School Principals
Directors of Health, Physical Education and Recreation

Subject: Amendment to Regulations of the Commissioner of Education

This is to inform you that the Board of Regents, which met on December 16-17, 1971, approved an amendment to the Regulations of the Commissioner of Education which permits girls to participate in interschool cross-country competition on mixed teams with male students.

Earlier this year, the Regents had taken action to permit girls to participate in a selected list of non-contact sports with boys under certain conditions. At that time, cross-country was not one of the approved sports. Action at the December meeting adds this sport to the list.

If you have any questions on this, please let me know.

Sincerely yours,

George H. Grover

George H. Grover

Bernard F. Haake

Bernard F. Haake